CARAVAN KIDD™

VOLUME 1

JOHJI MANABE

CARAVAN KIDD

VOLUME 1

キャラバン・キッド

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Dark Horse Comics®

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VOLUME 1

キャラバン・キッド

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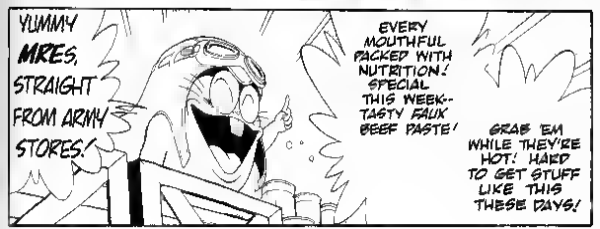
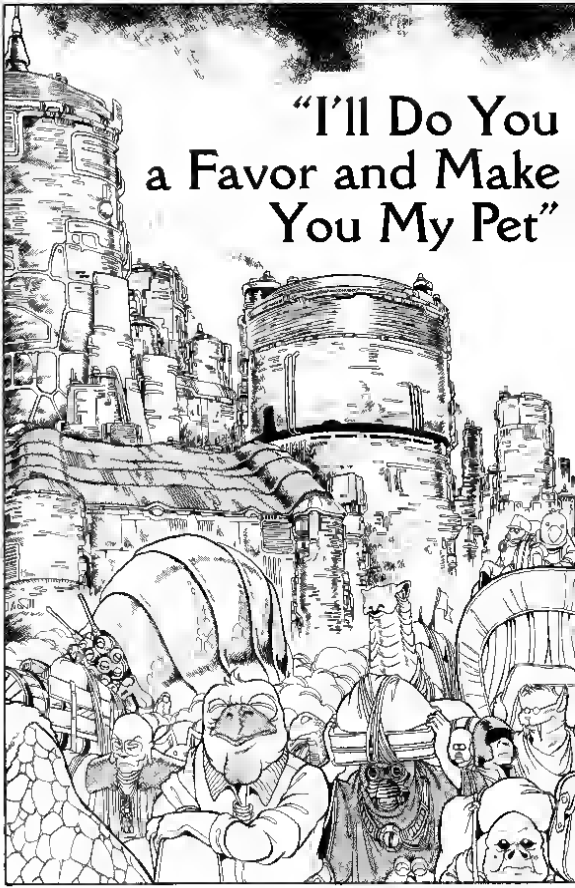
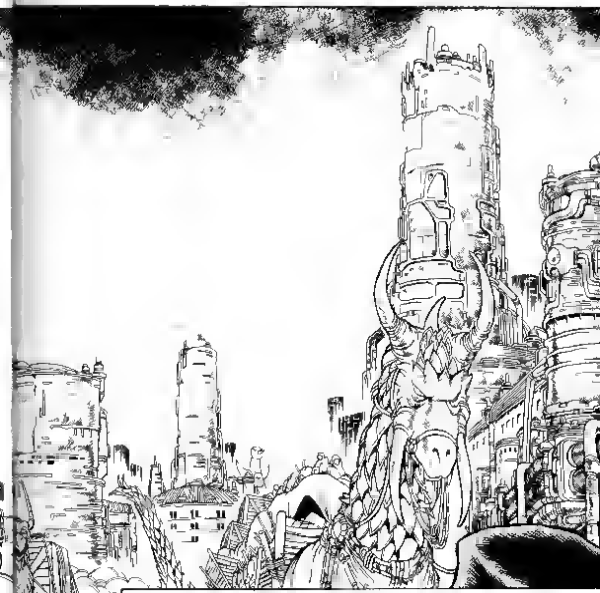
STEP RIGHT UP! STEP RIGHT UP!

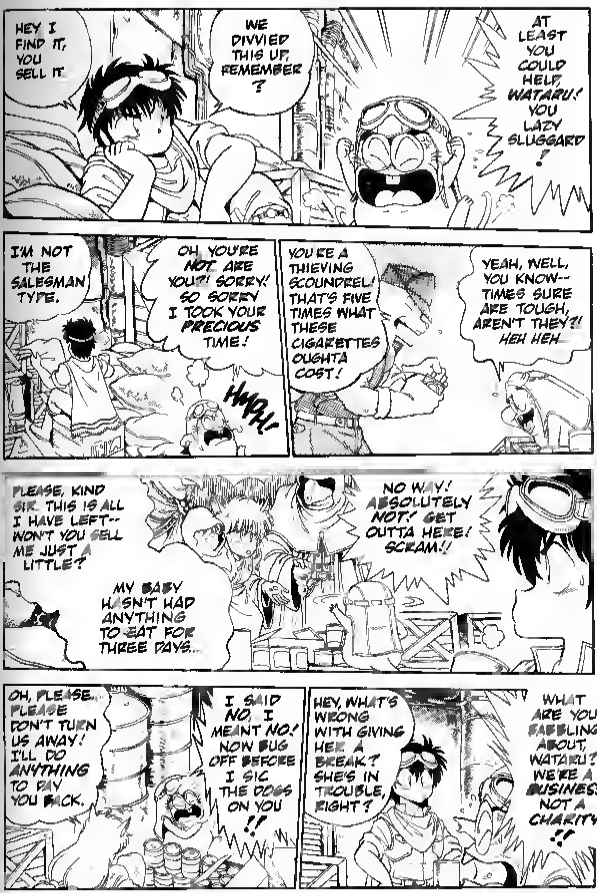

YUMMY MRES, STRAIGHT FROM ARMY STORES!
EVERY MOUTHFUL PACKED WITH NUTRITION! SPECIAL THIS WEEK-- TASTY FAUX BEEF PASTE!
GRAB 'EM WHILE THEY'RE HOT! HARD TO GET STUFF LIKE THIS THESE DAYS!


"I'll Do You
a Favor and Make
You My Pet"

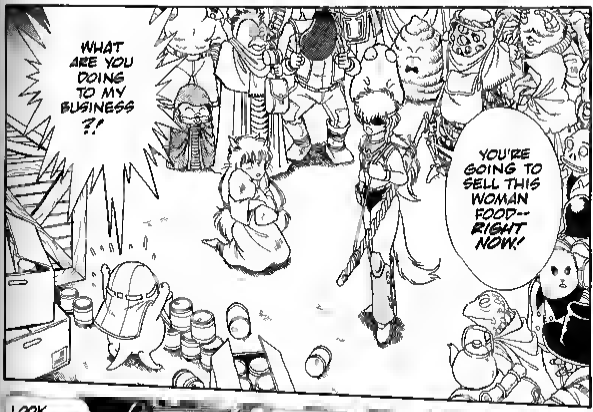


IT'S SPRING, BUT NOT A TIME OF JOY. THREE YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE **HELGEBARD EMPIRE**, EXTENDING ITS TERRITORIAL AMBITIONS ACROSS THE CONTINENT, LAUNCHED A TREACHEROUS BLITZKRIEG OF AGGRESSION. ALREADY TWO-THIRDS OF THE CONTINENT HAS FALLEN UNDER THE IRON FIST OF HELGEBARD. THIRTEEN FREE NATIONS HAVE BEEN WIPED FROM THE MAP. EVEN HERE, IN BUCOLIC **EKOOA**, WAVES OF REFUGEES ARRIVE EVERY DAY, SEEKING REFUGE FROM THE FLAMES OF WAR AT THE NORTHERNMOST EDGE OF THE CONTINENT...

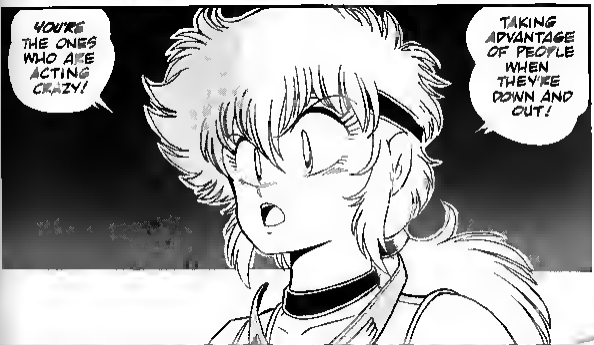
YAAAWN
WHAT A DRAG...
DOESN'T ANYTHING INTERESTIN EVER HAPPEN HERE?
WULK!!
FWAP
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, BABO?!
THAT'S WHAT I SHOULD BE ASKING YOU, YOU GOOD-FOR-NOTHING LAYABOUT D.
IM SO BUSY I'D TAKE HELP FROM THE DEVIL, AND LOOK AT YOU!


HEY I FIND IT, YOU SELL IT.
WE DIVVIED THIS UP, REMEMBER?
AT LEAST YOU COULD HELP, WATARU! YOU LAZY SLUGGARD!
I'M NOT THE SALESMAN TYPE.
OH, YOU'RE NOT, ARE YOU?! SORRY! SO SORRY I TOOK YOUR PRECIOUS TIME!
HMPH!
YOU'RE A THIEVING SCOUNDREL! THAT'S FIVE TIMES WHAT THESE CIGARETTES OUGHTA COST!
YEAH, WELL, YOU KNOW-- TIMES SURE ARE TOUGH, AREN'T THEY?! HEH HEH...
PLEASE, KIND SIR. THIS IS ALL I HAVE LEFT-- WON'T YOU SELL ME JUST A LITTLE?
MY BABY HASN'T HAD ANYTHING TO EAT FOR THREE DAYS...
NO WAY! ABSOLUTELY NOT! GET OUTTA HERE! SCRAM!!
OH, PLEASE... PLEASE DON'T TURN US AWAY! I'LL DO ANYTHING TO PAY YOU BACK.
I SAID NO. I MEANT NO! NOW BUG OFF BEFORE I SIC THE DOGS ON YOU!!
HEY, WHAT'S WRONG WITH GIVING HER A BREAK? SHE'S IN TROUBLE, EIGHT?
WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT, WATARU?! WE'RE A BUSINESS, NOT A CHARITY!!

A BUSINESS? SURE, RIGHT-- RIFFING OFF ARMY SUPPLIES AND DUMPING THEM ON THE BLACK MARKET.
WHAT A CYNIC! WE'RE JUST HELPING OUT ALL THOSE POOR, STARVING CIVILIANS
WE ARE HUH? SO THAT'S WHY YOU SOLD THOSE COEPSES AS HAM-- PUBLIC CHARITY?
HEY, WHAT'S THE DIFF? WHO'D EVER KNOW? WHO'D EVER KNOW, HUH?!
JEEZ, YOU FEALLY ARE THE SCUM OF THE EARTH.
GO AHEAD! CALL ME ANYTHING! MONEY MAKES THE WORLD GO AROUND, MY BOY! MONEY, LOVELY MONEY!!
MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR THE UNIVERSE IF I JUST BUMPED HIM OFF...
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO GET LOST!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! THERE'S NOT MUCH LEFT, FOLKS! STEP RIGHT UP!!
I HEAR NOTHIN, I SEE NOTHIN'
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, YOU
BITCH!?!


WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY BUSINESS ?!
YOU'RE GOING TO SELL THIS WOMAN FOOD-- RIGHT NOW!

LOOK, BIMBO...I'LL SELL TO ANYONE IF THEY GOT THE MONEY.
BUT NO MONEY, NO SALE.
SABO! WHAT'S UP?!
NOTHING... JUST THIS LITTLE GIRLIE HERE'S ACTING CRAZY.


YOU'RE THE ONES WHO ARE ACTING CRAZY!
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF PEOPLE WHEN THEY'RE DOWN AND OUT!

HERE-- TAKE THIS AND RUN ALONG.
BUT...
BUT, I HAVEN'T--
HEY!
AIEEEE!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! THIEF! ROBBER!
I'LL CALL THE COPS!!
GOMPH
URWK!
HEY, YOU! STOP RIGHT THERE!
BABO!!
WHMP

I DON'T KNOW WHO THE HELL YOU ARE, BUT YOU GOT A LOT OF NERVE!
OH, DEAR...
THIS CREEP MAY BE THE SCUM OF THE EARTH, BUT HE'S STILL MY PARTNER!
POKE
PROD
YOU THINK I'M GONNA LET YOU PLAY FOOTBALL WITH HIM? BETTER THINK AGAIN!
HEY!
....
....
OH, YEAH ?!
THINK YOU CAN LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT AND GET AWAY WITH IT?!
GET HER!
FIGHT!
FIGHT!
VNNNNNN
!

VRNNVRNN

THE HELGEBARD AIR FORCE!
A WHOLE FLEET OF STRATO-BOMBERS!
HELGEBARD? HERE?!
MAJOR BAD NEWS!
NO TIME FOR STREET FIGHTS!
AIEEEEEE!
RMBRMBRMB
HEY, YOU!! WAIT A SEC!!
COME BACK HERE DAMN YOU!!
YOU MORON! FORGET ABOUT THAT BROAD! HELP ME PACK THE LOOT!
I THOUGHT YOU SAID THIS PLACE WAS SAFE! AN OPEN CITY!
GEE, DID I, REALLY?

VVRNN VVRNN

VRRNN
WRAM!

KABOOM!
SMASH!
AEE EEE!
RUN FOR IT! THEY'LL KILL US ALL!!
SOMEBODY HELP ME!

WHOOOM
YAIEE!

HEEEK!
OHMIGOD!! MY LOVELY M-MONEY!!
FORGET THAT CRAP! YOU WANT TO LIVE?!
AAGGHH!
BKAM
sniff sniff
WOULD YOU MOVE IT, YOU BLOODY FOOL?!

YAREA! YOU STINKING HELGEBARD SHIT-FOR-BRAINS FUKES!!
YOU #$%@ SCUMBAGS! I'LL MURDER YOU ALL! DIE SCREAMING!
BRRTTTT
ARE YOU COMPLETELY NUTS?!?
YOW!
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MARBLES? YOU'LL GET KILLED!
B-BUT... MY MONEY...
->SNF<-

!!
LUNCH!
KRAK
OUCH!
EMPH

EEEEK!
IT'S ALIVE !!!
WHAT THE--
OWW! OW OW...
HOW-- HOW DARE YOU! YOU FILTHY LITTLE PERVERT !!
STICKING YOUR NOSE INTO UH !!
AW, STUFF IT. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO JUMPED ON ME, YOU--
Huh?!!
IT'S THAT TROUBLE-MAKING BROAD !
YOU'RE RIGHT! THIEF! ROBBER!
GREAT... YOU GUYS AGAIN.

SO SORRY, BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY WITH JERKS LIKE YOU.
WHAT ?!
DAMN THEY NEVER QUIT...
HUH ?
GRNNGRNNGRNN
AIV/V! THOSE ARE TANKS! TANKS, TANKS, T-T-T TANKS! COMING RIGHT AT US!
IT'S A BLOODY INVASION FORCE!
WRONG, LITTLE BOY.. THEY'RE AFTER ME

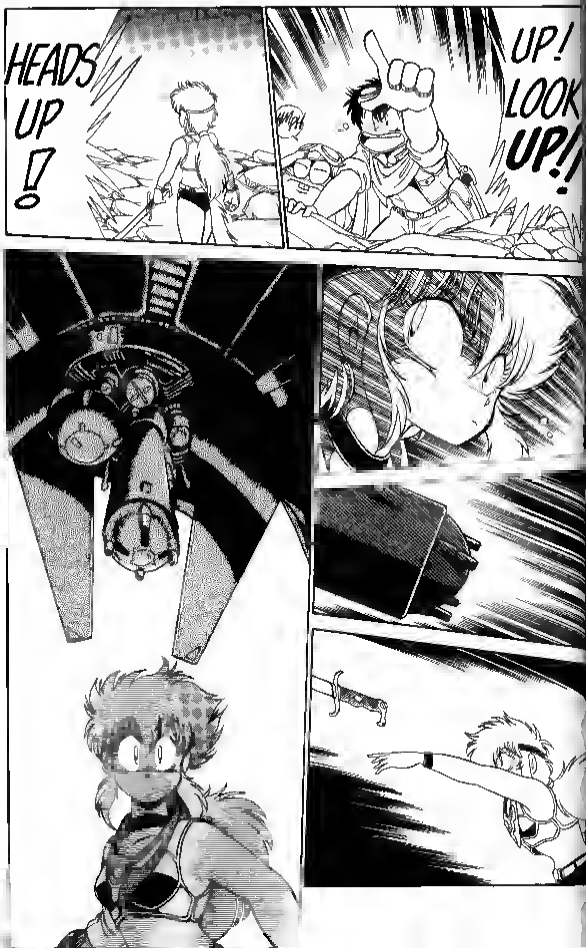
HUH?
SAY WHAT?
YOU'LL SEE IN A MINUTE.
VEN!
LET HER GO. LET HER GO
DAMMIT! COME BACK HERE! YOU'LL DIE!!
HEY, YOU IDIOT! STOP!!
WOMEN LIKE THAT ARE BETTER OFF DEAD
SHE MUST BE MAD AS A FRUITBAT BAD NEWS ALL AROUND
OH GO ON.. TELL ME MORE. ♡
YOU REALLY ARE A SCUMBAG

SHRAK
?!
WHAT THE HELL?!

BRRR

BKOOOOM
I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT! SHE BLEW IT TO SMITHEREENS! WITH A SWORD!!
WILL YOU STOP THINKING LIKE THAT?!
I COULD HAVE MADE A FUNDLE SELLING THAT ARMOR PLATE TO A SCRAP-YARD I KNOW ABOUT
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
JEEZ-- WHY'D SHE HAVE TO ATOMIZE IT LIKE THAT?!
ALL THE SAME THOUGH...
..WHO THE HELL IS SHE?
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER AROUND BEFORE
MAKING MONEY IS MY LIFE. LET LESSER MINDS WORRY ABOUT THE DETAILS

SPRAAKK


HEADS UP!
UP! LOOK UP!!

B-KOOM
KRAKK
YOW!! WAY TO GO!! ATTA GIRL!!
OOMPH!
VVNNVVNNVVNN

HEY, LOOK-- ARE THEY RUNNING AWAY?!
LORD ALMIGHTY!! AVIATION TITANIUM ALLOY! I'M EICH, RICH!
....
GEEZ THEY ARE RUNNING!
HEY! YOU!
OUR LITTLE INTERRUPTION'S OVER.
STILL WANT REVENGE FOR YOUR PARTNER?
OH NO! THAT'S OKAY! KICK HIM AGAIN IF YOU WANT!
I WAS A FOUL MISCREANT FORGIVE ME!
PLEASE DON'T HURT US!
YEEK!
AIEEE!

OH DON'T BE BASHFUL! YOU DESERVE IT!
A REWARD? AW, SHUCKS.. ANYONE WOULD'VE DONE THE SAME...
BUT IF YOU INSIST... A SMALL MONETARY TOKEN...
WELL, COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU DID WAKE ME ABOUT THAT BOMBER
OKAY, THEN-- I'LL REWARD YOU!
KACHAK
HUH?!
UHM THANK YOU VERY MUCH, BUT WHAT IS IT?
IT'S A COLLAR, CHUM--A COLLAR!

A COLLAR? I DON'T GET IT-- WHY?
COME ON-- WHAT DO YOU THINK?
IT MEANS YOU GOT AN OWNER LIKE ANY GOOD PET
WAUH! WAUH! WAUH!
GOOD NEWS, EH, BOYS? FROM NOW ON, YOU'RE MY FAITHFUL SERVANTS--GOT IT?!
Y-YOU BITCH! I SAVE YOUR LIFE AND THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE MY REWARD?!?
DAMN RIGHT! BABO'S NOBODY'S SLAVE!
I'M TIRED OF TRAVELING ALONE
MAAM, IT'S A DEEP PERSONAL HONOR TO ACCOMPANY YOU!
NO WAY. ABSOLUTELY NOT!

WHMP
YOU CAN DO AS YOU LIKE
BUT I AM A FREE MAN!
BABO.
...AND I ABSOLUTELY REFUSE ON MY HONOR TO DO ANYTHING FOR FREE!
OH VERY WELL
FWAP!
HMM NOT A BAD PIECE OF WORK, QUITE PURE.
IF YOU COME WITH ME, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU A COUPLE MORE
2000 FR AT LEAST.
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO SOONER?! A PLEASURE, YOUNG LADY!!
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MORALS?

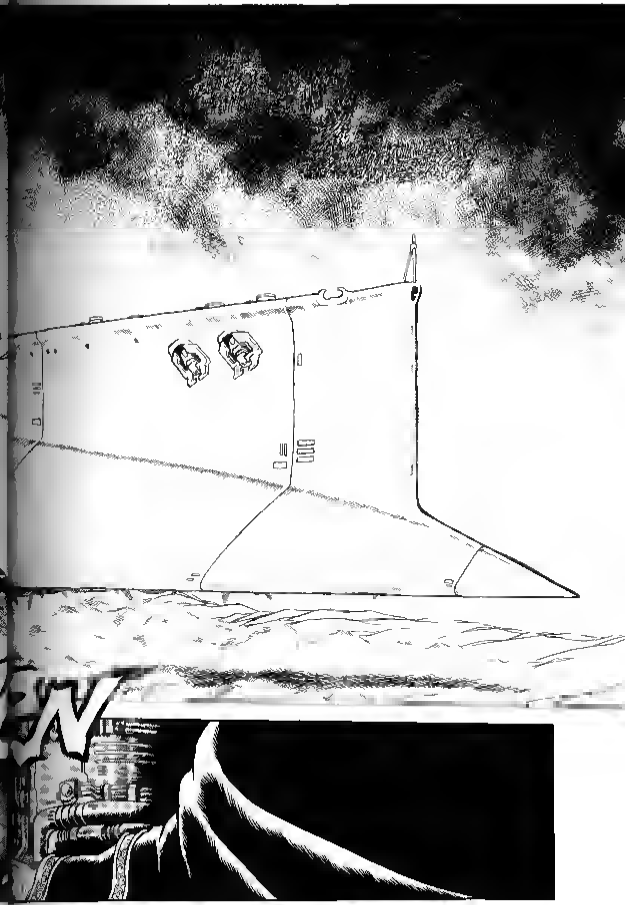
WELL THEN IT'S DECIDED-- LET'S MOVE OUT!
WH-- WHERE ARE WE GOING?
TO BEGIN WITH, WE'RE GETTING OUT OF THIS DEAD-END BURG
AFTER THAT, WELL, I DON'T REALLY KNOW
YOU DON'T KNOW?!
BY THE WAY, I ASSUME "FAITHFUL RETAINERS" GET AN ALLOWANCE, HMM?
DON'T WORRY, I'LL FEED YOU
THE NAME'S TORIS! MIAN TORIS!
IT'S ANY GOOD OWNER'S DUTY, AFTER ALL!
"OWNER"
OOOHNOOO...

The Six-Million-
D.D. Girl

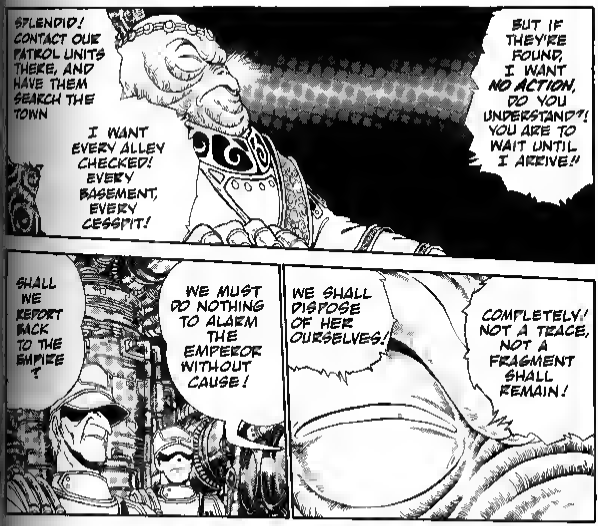
GRRRN
GRRRN
GRRRN

GRRNN

GRRM
MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM THE EKODA STRIKE WING! MIAN TORIS SIGHTED! ALL FORCES IN PURSUIT!



YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY SURE IT WAS MIAN TORIS? YOU DIDN'T TRY TO STOP HER DID YOU?
NO, SIR!
HAH! IT WAS WORTH BURNING DOWN A TOWN OR THREE FOR THIS!
WHERE IS SHE NOW?
STILL SEARCHING, SIR. WE'VE ALSO PUT OUT WARRANTS FOR HER TWO COMPANIONS, SIR.
COMPANIONS?!
YES, SIR--TWO BLACK MARKETEERS PRETTY WELL KNOWN IN THESE PARTS.
WE'LL BRING THEM IN WITH HER.
VERY ODD, INDEED. SHE'S ALWAYS WORKED ALONE BEFORE.
SIR?
IT DOESN'T MATTER SO--WHERE'S THE NEAREST TOWN?
THERE'S ONE TO THE SOUTH, NERIMA, I BELIEVE.


SPLENDID! CONTACT OUR PATROL UNITS THERE, AND HAVE THEM SEARCH THE TOWN
I WANT EVERY ALLEY CHECKED! EVERY BASEMENT, EVERY CESSPIT!
BUT IF THEY'RE FOUND, I WANT NO ACTION, DO YOU UNDERSTAND?! YOU ARE TO WAIT UNTIL I ARRIVE!!
SHALL WE REPORT BACK TO THE EMPIRE?
WE MUST DO NOTHING TO ALARM THE EMPEROR WITHOUT CAUSE!
WE SHALL DISPOSE OF HER OURSELVES!
COMPLETELY! NOT A TRACE, NOT A FRAGMENT SHALL REMAIN!
FLANK SPEED!
CHANGE HEADING TO COURSE TWO-SEVEN-ZERO! RUDDER STARBOARD THIRTY DEGREES! SPIN UP THE AUXILIARY GENERATORS!

BLUP BLUPBLURP
WHAT A SUMMER.
LIFE IS STRANGE, HUH? HOW'D THIS EVER HAPPEN...?
HEY, YOU LAZY SLUG! WHERE'S MY DINNER?!

DAMN IT ALL!
HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO WAIT ANYWAY?!
ALL RIGHT ALL RIGHT ALREADY!
MAKE SURE IT'S NOT TOO STRONG!
AND GO LIGHT ON THE ONIONS, YOU HEAR?! YOU SLICED THE POTATOES REALLY THIN, DIDN'T YOU?!
RRRGGG
JEEZ!!
WHAT A PAIN IN THE BUTT!
SHE ACTS LIKE SHE'S SOME KINDA GODDAMN QUEEN OR SOMETHING!
!
CHOK
GURK
SPLASH

HEE HEE HEE HEE!
SOUP'S ON!! ♡
HERE IT IS-- YUMMY YUMMY DIN-DIN ♪
ABOUT TIME ♪
YOU'RE QUITE THE COOK, AREN'T YOU, KID?
HMM MM..
HUH! IT ACTUALLY SMELLS GOOD.
THERE'S MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM, SO EAT UP!
HEH-- 'BOUT TIME,' HUH? WE'LL SEE WHO LAUGHS LAST!!
HAH HAH HAH! YEAH, WELL, I'VE BEEN ON THE ROAD, Y'KNOW LIVE AND LEARN, EH ?
FWIP
UK--
GYAAAAA!

THINK YOU'RE REAL AMUSING, I SUPPOSE
SO LAUGH ABOUT THIS, FUNNY BOY-- THREE DAYS WITHOUT FOOD!
I... I DON'T REALLY FEEL LIKE DIETING, HEH HEH
IF YOU GET TOO HUNGRY, YOU CAN ALWAYS FINISH THIS HMM?
THANKS, BUT NO THANKS!!
SPEAKING OF FOOD, YOUR LITTLE SHRIMP FRIEND'S SURE TAKING HIS TIME BUYING GRUB IN NERIMA
GARGLE GARGLE
>FLEH<
HEY, WHY CAN'T WE ALL GO INTO TOWN TOGETHER, ANYWAY?
WHY DO WE HAVETA CAMP OUT IN THE STINKIN WOODS WHEN THERE'S A TOWN WITH BEDS AND SHOWERS SO CLOSE?
BECAUSE NERIMA'S UNDER HELGEBARD OCCUPATION, THAT'S WHY!
IF THE GARRISON SPOTTED US, THINGS COULD GET NASTY

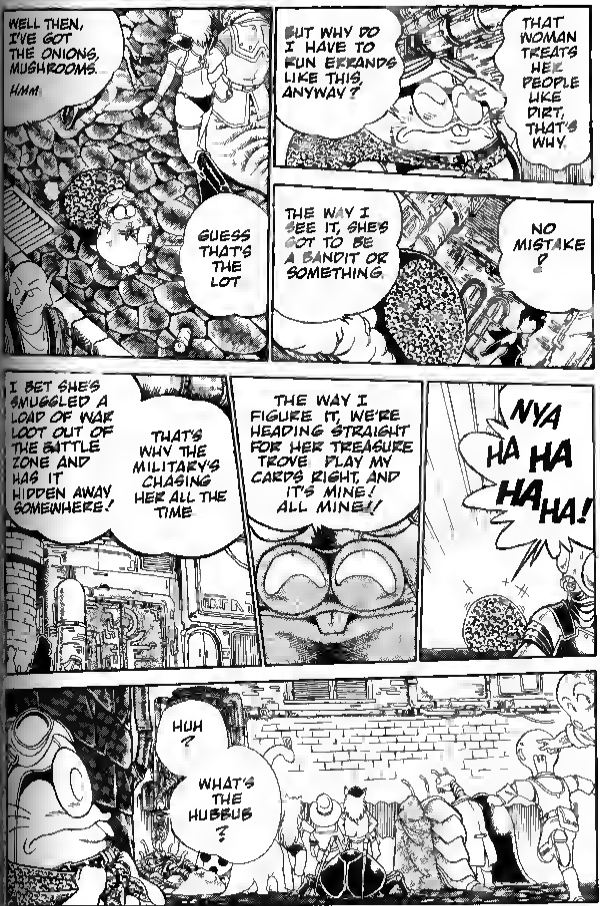
Y'KNOW, THAT PARTNER OF YOURS IS QUITE A GUY!
HOW HE MANAGED TO FIND A WAGON AND ALL THE SUPPLIES WE NEEDED IN THE RUINS OF EKOPA BEATS THE HELL OUTTA ME. TAKES A KIND OF GENIUS.
GENIUS, HUH? LIKE LOOTING IS SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF.
MAYBE NOT, BUT IT'S BETTER THAN HAVING NO GENIUS AT ALL, EH?
!!
AW, C'MON!! DON'T TELL ME COOKING AND LAUNDRY IS ALL YOU'RE GOOD FOR...?
RRRGG!

HEY DON'T TAKE IT SO HARD.
EVERY MASTER NEEDS A SERVANT LIKE YOU, TOO.
POOR GUY... WELL, NOT EVERYBODY CAN--
ENOUGH! I QUIT! I QUIT RIGHT NOW!!
HUH?
YAIEEEE! I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE! I CAN'T TAKE THIS LIFE!!
THIS LIFE?
IT'S ONLY BEEN HALF A DAY
AW, SHUT UP!! I CAN'T TAKE ANOTHER SECOND!!

I'M A MAN, NOT AN ANIMAL!! I CAN'T LIVE AS A SERVANT TO A...A VIXEN LIKE YOU!
SERVANT, HELL! TRY PET!! YOU EVEN PUT COLLAR ON ME!
ANYWAY, DEAR, I'M OUTTA HERE ~!
YOU WANT TO KILL ME, JUST GO EIGHT AHEAD !!
ADIOS! GIVE MY BEST TO YOUR PRECIOUS BABO!
.....
YOU CAN'T TAKE OFF THAT COLLAR, YOU KNOW
THIS THING? HELL, I'LL JUST GET SOME MACHINE SHOP IN TOWN TO SAW IT OFF WITH A DIAMOND CUTTER
SPARK

WHA... WHAT THE?
IT...IT'S GETTING--
SKNCT!
SO, ANYWAY... THAT'S THE WAY IT WORKS, Y'SEE? ♡
YOU--
-:hhrk!:-
YOU AND YOUR DAMNED TRICKS!
YOU BETTER CHANGE YOUR MIND, OR IT'S STRAIGHT TO VALHALLA, SWEETIE
N-NUTS TO YOU!
HNGGRK!
NOT MUCH TIME LEFT...
HHNGGARRGG!

BOY, WHAT A CESSPOOL OF A TOWN.
EAT
AYE, TIS, BUT BACK IN THE OLD DAYS NERIMA WAS A LIVELY PLACE, INDEED
IT'S ONLY SINCE HELGEBARD TOOK OVER THAT THE OLD TOWN'S GOTTEN SO DARK AND EVIL.
EVEN THE BROTH IN YOUR SOUP IS BLACK! THIS BURG GIVES ME THE WILLIES.
YOU MUST HAIL FROM THE WESTLANDS, I WAGER?
YOU BE HERE ON BUSINESS OR THE LIKE, EH?
MMM WELL, YO COULD CALL IT THAT.


WELL THEN, I'VE GOT THE ONIONS, MUSHROOMS.
HMM.
GUESS THAT'S THE LOT
BUT WHY DO I HAVE TO RUN ERRANDS LIKE THIS, ANYWAY?
THAT WOMAN TREATS HER PEOPLE LIKE DIRT, THAT'S WHY.
THE WAY I SEE IT, SHE'S GOT TO BE A BANDIT OR SOMETHING.
NO MISTAKE?
I BET SHE'S SMUGGLED A LOAD OF WAR LOOT OUT OF THE BATTLE ZONE AND HAS IT HIDDEN AWAY SOMEWHERE!
THAT'S WHY THE MILITARY'S CHASING HER ALL THE TIME
THE WAY I FIGURE IT, WE'RE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR HER TREASURE TROVE. PLAY MY CARDS RIGHT, AND IT'S MINE! ALL MINE!!
NYA HA HA HA HA!
HUH?
WHAT'S THE HUBBUB?

!
THIS IS JUST GREAT-- THERE'S A HELGEBARD GARRISON IN TOWN !
HMM... SOMETHING'S UP, I FEEL IT IN MY MONEY POUCH..
SO SORRY, SO SORRY, EXCUSE ME!
JUST PASSING THROUGH! SORRY!
- TRY TO HIDE HER, TRY TO PROTE HER. A YOU WI ALL BE VERY VERY SORRY !
WHAK
UNDERSTAND?! THIS WOMAN, MIAN TORIS, IS A MONSTER! THE MOST DANGEROUS CRIMINAL SINCE THE FOUNDING OF THE EMPIRE!
WE MUST FIND HER, ARREST HER, AND PUT HER TO DEATH!

NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, DWARF!!
HEY- WHAT SHE DO?
AIN'T SEEN NONE LIKE HER IN THESE PARTS...
THAT BROAD A CRIMINAL?
--WILL RECEIVE A REWARD OF SIX MILLION D.D.!!
LISTEN WELL! ANYONE WHO BRINGS MIANTORIS IN OR PROVIDES INFORMATION LEADING TO HER ARREST--
KID YOURSELF NOT, BARO, THIS IS THE BIG ONE!!
BY DAMN, JUST AS I THOUGHT...
A-CHINGGGG!!
6,000,000D.D.

SIX MILLION DD JUST FOR INFORMATION ?!
BY THE GODS, THAT'S ENOUGH TO BUY ME A GOLD MINE!
HEY! I SAW THE LADY IN A VALLEY UP NORTH!
NO!! SHE WAS IN THE SOUTH MARKET JUST THIS MORNING!
SHE WAS AT THE SQUARE NORTH OF TALAK STREET! I SWEAR IT!
YEEK!
THE HELL SHE WAS! I SEEN HER WORKING AS A BAR GIRL UPTOWN!
GET BACK! BACK, ALL OF YOU! SILENCE! SILENCE!!
IT'S THE DEATH SENTENCE FOR FALSE REPORTS!
IS ALL THAT TRUE?!
FLAT CASH PAYMENT? YOU DON'T TAKE OUT ANY FOR TAXES, NOW DO YOU?
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!!
WORRY ABOUT THE TAXES AFTER YOU'VE CAUGHT HER!
KWOK
YAHOO!!

CAPTAIN!
WHAT IS IT?!
IT'S FLEET COMMAND, SIR! THEY'VE JUST FAXED US ANOTHER WANTED POSTER
IT SAYS THESE GUYS ARE TRAVELLING WITH MIAN TORIS...
!
IT SEEMS THEY'RE BLACK MARKETEERS, SIR. PRETTY WELL KNOWN AROUND THESE PARTS...
.....

!
Y-KNOW, YOU'RE A LOT MORE STUBBORN THAN I THOUGHT!
JUST A LITTLE LONGER AND YOU'D HAVE BEEN A GONER FOR SURE.
NEVER SEEN ANYONE TURN PURPLE LIKE THAT BEFORE--
-GLK!-
YOU DID IT TO ME, YOU HEARTLESS BITCH!
HOW DARE YOU! IS THAT ANY WAY TO TALK TO THE WOMAN WHO SAVED YOUR LIFE?!
S-SAVED MY LIFE?!!
DAMNED STRAIGHT! AFTER ALL, IT WAS ME WHO LOOSENED YOUR COLLAR!
NOW JUST SEE THAT YOU WORK HARDER FOR YOUR LOVING MASTER!
HAH! SINCE WHEN DO "LOVING MASTERS" STRANGLE THEIR PETS?!
RRRRRRRR

MBRMBRMB
AWK AWK AWK
THREE-POINT LANDING!
SKSSHH
WHAT WERE YOU DOING ALL THIS TIME?! YOU'RE HOURS LATE!
SORRY, SORRY... THE TRAFFIC WAS BRUTAL
SAY, NATARU... WHAT ARE YOU STEAMED ABOUT?
AW, SHUDDUP!!
DELIGHTFUL! YOU LEFT ALL THIS DELICIOUS STEW FOR LITTLE OL' ME?!
SLRRPP
HEY, I ONLY HAD A BOWL OF SOUP IN TOWN--I'M RAVENOUS!
BARFF

YOU BOUGHT WHAT I TOLD YOU, I HOPE?!
OF COURSE I DID! YOU DON'T TRUST ME, GO SEE FOR YOURSELF!
SLRRP
.....
YEAH, LOOKS LIKE IT'S ALL HERE.
PSST, WATAKU ?
HN ?
COME ALONG WITH ME, LADDIE-- WE GOTTA TALK!
HUH? WHAT IS IT NOW ?!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!! WHERE DO YOU TWO THINK YOU'RE GOING?!
WE JUST HAVE TO TAKE A LEAK, MA'AM!
JEESH! YOU MEN! BE QUICK ABOUT IT, OKAY?!
WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US, MA'AM ?!
WE'RE ALL PALS HERE!
YOU GOT A DEATH WISH OR SOMETHING, EUNT?
THIS IS FAR ENOUGH-- SHE CAN'T HEAR US
SO WHAT'S UP, ALREADY?

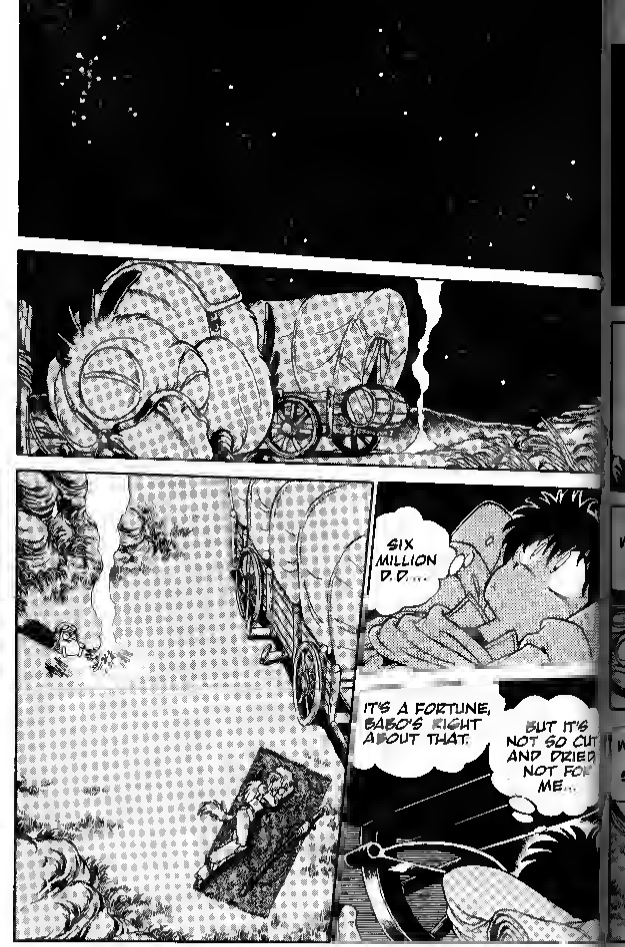
JUST AN INTERESTING LITTLE BIT OF INFO I HEARD IN TOWN, EH? WORTH A CHUCKLE-- LEND ME AN EAR, DEAR BOY!
SO SPIT IT OUT, ALREADY!
WHAAAT?!!!!
SIX MILLION D.D.?!!!!
IDIOT! KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN!
OOPS, SORRY...
GEE, SHE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SUCH A HARD CASE...
WHO CARES WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE!? THE POINT IS, WE TURN HER IN AND WE'RE ON EASY STREET FOR LIFE!
WHAT?! YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!!
OF COURSE NOT! WE CAN WAKE UP TOMORROW EACH BEYOND OUR WILDEST FANTASIES!

SO-- HOW ABOUT IT?
HM Hmm...
THAT REWARD THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT YOU THINK WE CAN TRUST THEM?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
WHAT?!
WE THIN OF AS A GAMBL
OR MAYBE YOU GOT SOMETHING ELSE ON YOUR MIND, HMM? MAYBE YOU LIKE PLAYING THE SLAVE...?
LEATHER COLLAR AND ALL EH?
SHUT YOUR YAP! YOU SEEM PLENTY HAPPY RUNNIN AROUND FOR HER YOURSELF!
YOU THIMBLE BRAIN!! SHE'S THE GOOSE THAT LAID THE GOLDEN EGG, SEE?!
I WAS AFTER HER LOOT! BUT THIS REWARD TOP ANYTHING SHE COULD HAVE!
BUT GEE THE IMPERIAL ARMY'S A GANG OF MURDERERS, THUGS, AND RAPISTS, IF YOU ASK ME
TURN A YOUNG WOMAN OVER TO THOSE BASTARDS? I DON'T LIKE IT...
WHAT'S TAKING YOU GUYS SO LONG?! HURRY IT UP!

SORRY, SORRY, MA'AM! NATARU HERE'S HAVING SOME TROUBLE GETTING STARTED!
OH, MAN...
YOU'RE A WIMP, NATARU! PITY AND PROFITS DON'T MIX, GOT IT?
I DIDN'T MEAN IT THAT WAY...
WELL, HEY! WORRY ABOUT IT LATER--THE BIG QUESTION IS HOW WE TURN HER IN.
AFTER ALL, SHE'S A STRONG LITTLE WENCH. BUT SHE SHOULD HAVE HER GUARD DOWN WHEN SHE'S ASLEEP. WE JUMP HER WHILE SHE'S DOWN, TIE HER UP TIGHT...
HE'S A DIRTY RAT AND PROUD OF IT.
WHAT'S WITH YOU, BOY ? I CAN SEE YOUR HEART'S NOT IN IT. COME ON, WHAT'S THE POINT OF FEELING SORRY FOR A WOMAN LIKE THAT, EH?
I SAID THAT'S NOT IT!
IT'S JUST THAT THAT-
LOOK, DON'T WORRY--I REALLY WILL SPLIT THE REWARD WITH YOU.. TRUST ME
IT'S NOT THAT, EITHER !!!

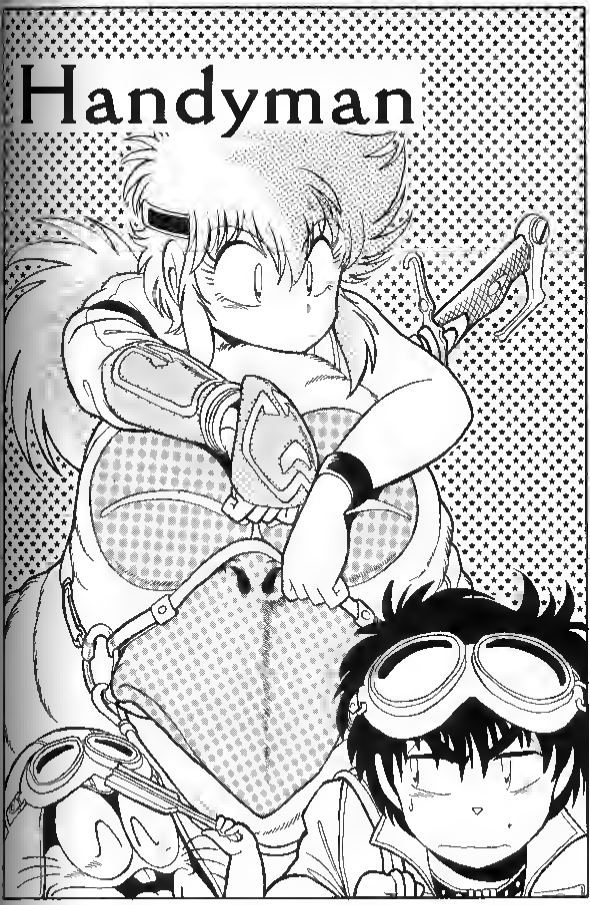
YES, SIR! NO, SIR! NO MISTAKE, SIR! IT WAS ONE OF HER GANG, I'M SURE, SIR!
I'M CONFIDENT THEY MUST BE CAMPED OUT SOMEWHERE NEAR NERIMA
WE'LL START SEARCHING THE AREA AROUND THE TOWN IMMEDIATELY, SIR
WE REQUEST TWO MORE ARMORED COMPANIES IN SUPPORT. THANK YOU SIR! OVER AND OUT!
COMPANY, MOVE OUT!!
VRMMBB
WHAT SHALL WE DO, SIR?
EVEN AT MAXIMUM SPEED, WE'LL ARRIVE AFTER NIGHTFALL

HAVE OUR FORCES ON THE GROUND KEEP THEM UNDER SURVEILLANCE--NOTHING MORE!
WE DON'T DARE MOVE AGAINST THAT GIRL UNTIL THE DREADNOUGHT'S IN PLACE
I WANT HER CAMP ENCIRCLED TWO LINES DEEP--NO, THREE LINES DEEP!
SHE MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO ESCAPE!
UNDERSTAND?!!
GRRNN
GRRNN


SIX MILLION D.D....
IT'S A FORTUNE, BABO'S RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
BUT IT'S NOT SO CUT AND DRIED NOT FOR ME...

I DIDN'T RUN AWAY FROM HOME TO MAKE A FORTUNE...
I WAS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FUN, FOR SOMETHING EXCITING...
I HATE HER, BUT THERE'S NO WAY I CAN TIE HER UP AND TURN HER OVER TO THE IMPERIAL ARMY.
I DIDN'T SET OUT TO BE AN INFORMER, A LOUSY BOUNTY HUNTER...
HSST, WATARU !
BABO ?
NOW, YOU UNDERSTAND, RIGHT? FIRST, YOU GET HER SWORD, JUST LIKE WE PLANNED
WITH NO SWORD, SHE'S JUST ANOTHER HYSTERICAL FEMALE
THEN THE TWO OF US TIE HER UP AND SHE'S ALL OURS
WHERE IS SHE?
IT'S COOL, IT'S COOL-- SHE'S SOUND ASLEEP
AND WHEN THE SUN COMES UP, WE'RE MILLIONAIRES !!

SLOOWLY, SLOWLY NOW... WE CAN'T MAKE A SOUND...
HEY, BABO...
I'M NOT DOING THIS-- SORRY
WUHUH ?!?!
WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT, YOU GHERKIN?!? I SHOULD NEVER HAVE TRUSTED YOU! YOU TRAITOR! YOU--YOU WIMP!!
SHUDDUP, YOU STINKING SLAVE TRADER !!
WHAK
THDD
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TWO FIGHTING ABOUT, YOU GODDAMN IDIOTS?! I'M TRYING TO GET SOME SLEEP HERE!
WHNK
BOK


Handyman

YOU STUPID MORONS WOKE ME UP!!
YOU'RE NOT KIDS NYMOEE-- YOU MIND CUTTING OUT THE PILLOW FIGHTS?!
I'M SO SORRY.
WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU FIGHTING ABOUT, ANYWAY?
NONE OF YOUR DAMN BUSINESS!!
.....
A LOVERS' QUARREL?
WHAT?! WITH WHO?!

BUT GEE, I THOUGHT YOU TWO HAVE BEEN TOGETHER LIKE FOREVER, RIGHT?
I'VE HEARD ABOUT GUYS WITH A..AHH "FONDNESS" FOR ALIENS
I'M NOT INTO THAT !!!
HMM
THE DAMNED MINX DOESN'T BELIEVE ME..
NOW LOOK HERE! BABO AND I JUST GET ALONG OKAY, SEE?! THAT'S WHY WE HANG OUT TOGETHER! WE'RE JUST GREAT--
WAK
--FALS ?!?
YOU, YOU SCUM?! WHO SAYS YOU'RE MY FRIEND EH?, YOU TREACHEROUS SWINE!

HEY, WHERE'ZE YOU GOING ?!
TO TAKE A DUMP, THAT'S WHAT! A DUMP!
I'M SO MAD I COULD JUST--
HEY!! NOT THERE! DO IT DOWNWIND !!
BY THE WAY...
ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME YOU TOLD US ?
TOLD YOU WHAT ?
TOLD US ABOUT YOU, THAT'S WHAT! WHO YOU ARE, WHAT YOU'RE UP TO!
IT'S ALREADY THERE, YOU KNOW!
WHERE YOU COME FROM, WHAT YOU DID TO WIND UP IN ALL THIS TROUBLE IT MUST BE QUITE A STORY!

YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW, HM?
WELL, SURE I DO--WHO WOULDN'T ?
FORGET IT!!
WHY THE HELL NOT?! ANY DECENT PERSON WOULD TELL US THAT MUCH!
LOOK WHO'S TALKING!
ANY DECENT GUY WOULDN'T GO ASKING A LADY PERSONAL QUESTIONS LIKE THAT
A LADY, HUH?. AND JUST WHO MIGHT THAT BE?
ME, THAT'S WHO WHO ELSE ?
OH YEAH, RIGHT. AND SINCE WHEN DOES A "LADY" RUN AROUND SWINGING A GREAT BIG SWORD AND PUTTING DOG COLLARS ON GUYS WHO HELP HER?

SEEK!
OH, OH!
HMM?
....
....
HEY, WHAT'S UP? EVERYTHING QUIET OUT THERE
I WAS OUT OF MY MIND TO WORK WITH WATARU. IF YOU WANT TO MAKE MONEY RIGHT, YOU'VE GOT TO DO IT YOURSELF!! HMPH!!

UH OH, BABO !
YOU FORGOT TO BRING TOILET PAPER !!
HERE! USE THIS !
AH, THANK YOU, KIND SIR! THANK--
--YOU ?!
EEE AA GH!!!
BRITT
BLAMBLAM
BABO ?!!

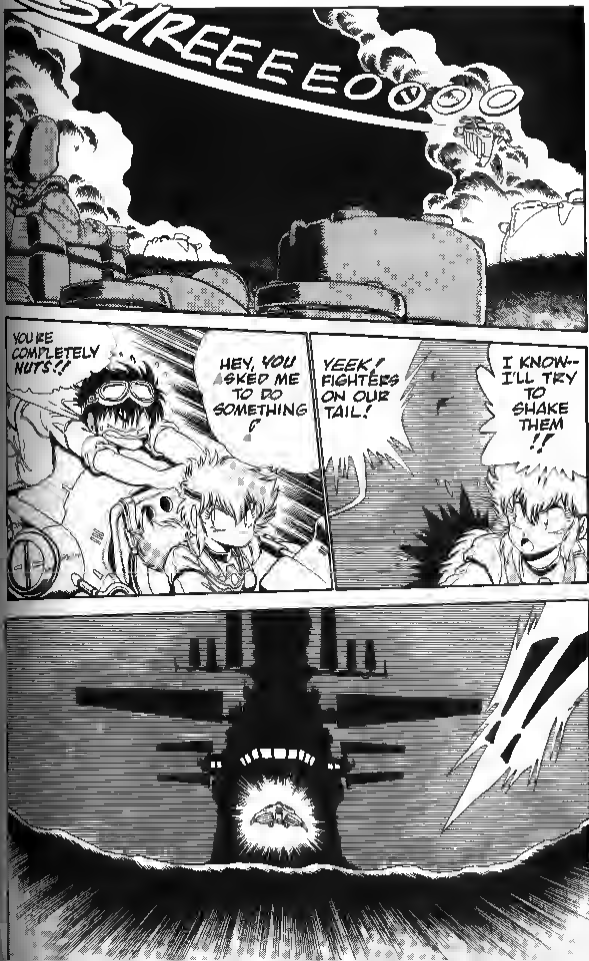
POF
IT'S A FLARE!
HOLY SHIT!!
GRNNGRNN
BLAM

KROOM
DAMMIT! THE BASTARDS HAVE GOT US SURROUNDED!
WHAT'S THIS "US" BUSINESS?! THOSE GUYS ARE GUNNING FOR YOU!
IF YOU WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE, STOP SPLITTING HAIRS AND RUN FOR IT!!
DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY! FULL PURSUIT!!
BLAM
BLAM

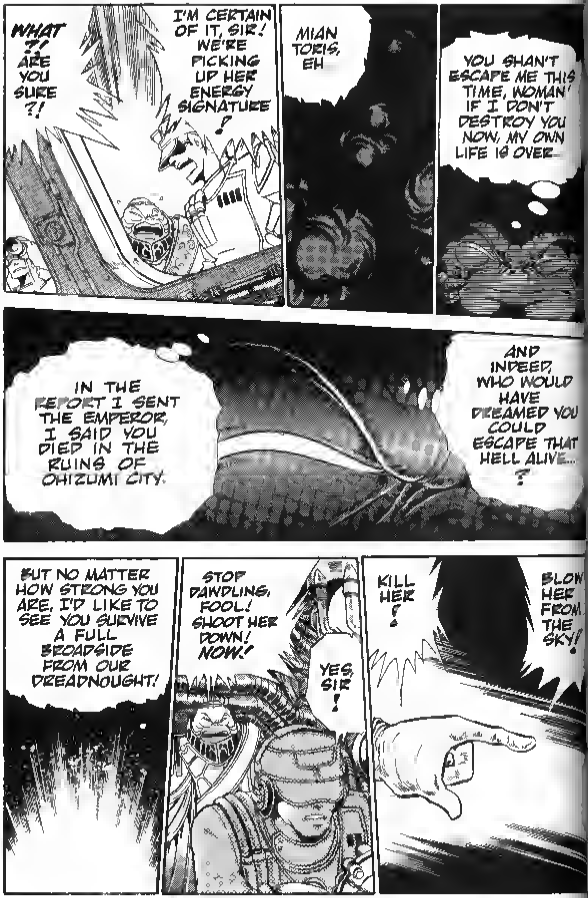
WRAMM
EEARGH!
GODDAMMIT, GIRL! WHY ARE THEY AFTER YOU?!
I TOLD YOU-- NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
THE HELL IT ISN'T! YOU THINK THE WOODS ARE FULL OF PEOPLE WITH SIX MILLION D.D. ON THEIR HEADS?!
AW, RATS...
YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT THAT, EH?
BRITT
UNAAAH!

SHREEE
OOO
WH-WH-WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?! THERE'S NOWHEEE TO RUN ON THIS DAMN PLAIN!!
GEE, YOU'RE ASKING ME?
HMM...
OH, JEEZ!! HE'S COMING BACK!
SHEEE

Gurk.
HAH!!
BRRT-T-T
!! WHU
SPLAT
YAAAH!


SHREEEEEOOOO
YOU'RE COMPLETELY NUTS!!
HEY, YOU ASKED ME TO DO SOMETHING!
YEEK! FIGHTERS ON OUR TAIL!
I KNOW-- I'LL TRY TO SHAKE THEM!!

A BATTLE-SHIP!!
BKOOM
YEOW!
BKOOM
BLAM
BLAM
SHREEEOOO
WHAT IN THE NAME OF--?!
IT'S MIAN TORIS, LORD BARDUM!


WHAT?! ARE YOU SURE?!
I'M CERTAIN OF IT, SIR! WE'RE PICKING UP HER ENERGY SIGNATURE!
MIAN TORIS, EH
YOU SHAN'T ESCAPE ME THIS TIME, WOMAN! IF I DON'T DESTROY YOU NOW, MY OWN LIFE IS OVER...
IN THE REPORT I SENT THE EMPEROR, I SAID YOU DIED IN THE RUINS OF OHIZUMI CITY.
AND INDEED, WHO WOULD HAVE DREAMED YOU COULD ESCAPE THAT HELL ALIVE...?
BUT NO MATTER HOW STRONG YOU ARE, I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU SURVIVE A FULL BROADSIDE FROM OUR DREADNOUGHT!
STOP DAWDLING, FOOL! SHOOT HER DOWN! NOW!
YES, SIR!
KILL HER!
BLOW HER FROM THE SKY!

BKOOM
BKOOM
BKOOM
BKOOM
DAMMIT, GET US SOME ALTITUDE! THEY'LL SHOOT US APART DOWN HERE!
SHUT UP !!
CHECK OUT THE VENTRAL CLAMPS !
WHY ?!
ARE WE CARRYING A BOMB DOWN THERE ?
A BOMB ? UH, YEAH, BUT.. HEY, YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS ?!
YOU GOT IT !

OH, MAN!!
STOP! TURN BACK!
YOU GOT SOME SORTA DEATH WISH?! TURN BACK!
AW, PUT A SOCK IN IT! IF WE DON'T TAKE OUT THAT BATTLE SHIP, WE'LL NEVER GET AWAY!
THEN I'LL GET US OUT OF HERE!
HEY, STOP! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
LET GO, YOU IDIOT!
GNNGNNGNN
YOU LET GO, DAMMIT!!

THE ENEMY'S MAKING A KAMIKAZE ATTACK!
STARBOARD RUDDER! FULL STARBOARD RUDDER!
TAKE THAT, PINHEAD!
HUH?

SKRAS
SKRASH
SPRAKK

HI
WHAMM
KNCH
FWUD

KSHHAH
OUCH OUCH OUCH!
THAT THIMBLE-BRAINED NERK!
UH OH!
QUITE THE IMPRESSIVE ENTRANCE, MIAN TORIS!
DON'T RESIST! YOU DON'T HAVE A CHANCE!
AND DON'T WORRY-- I'LL SEE THAT YOUR DEATH IS JUST AS IMPRESSIVE!

THE IMPERIAL ARMY HAS SQUANDERED INCREDIBLE RESOURCES JUST TO BRING YOU IN
I, PERSONALLY, HAVE HAD TO SPEND HALF A YEAR CRISSCROSSING THIS DISMAL MUDBALL AS COMMANDANT OF OUR SEARCH-AND-DESTROY UNITS.
ALL OF THIS, ALL OF THIS EFFORT, TO EXTERMINATE YOU, SPAWN OF THE DEVIL!
YOU ARE THE ENEMY OF ALL SENTIENT CREATURES!!
FIRE! EMPTY YOUR MAGAZINES!!
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT!!

JUST WAIT ONE GODDAMN MINUTE, YOU!
SEE WHAT I'VE GOT HERE?!
!!
ONE FALSE MOVE! JUST ONE!
AND I'LL PLAY TAPS ON THIS FUSE!
UKK!

MIAN! GET OVER HERE!
THANK YOU, DEAR! IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU'RE GOOD FOR SOMETHING.
I'M PLEASANTLY SURPRISED, REALLY I AM! ♡
YOUR GRATITUDE IS HEART-WARMING!
YOU STUPID KID!! ARE YOU NUTS?!
HAND HER OVER, BOY!
YOU FOOL! DON'T YOU KNOW WHO THAT WOMAN IS?!!
EH?

SHE'S A BREAKER, BOY!
A BREAKER, UNDERSTAND?!!
HUH? "BREAKER"...?
HE'S RIGHT, KID! THAT CRAZY BITCH MEANS TO DESTROY THE CONTINENT, THE PLANET, THE WHOLE EMPIRE!
THOSE LOONIES BABBLING ABOUT?
I DON'T HAVE A CLUE!
GODS ALOFT, YOU IDIOT.
...THAT WOMAN IS THE HARBINGER OF ARMAGEDDON! UNDERSTAND?!
OH YEAH?! SO I'M JUST AN IDIOT, HUH?!
NO! WAIT! CALM DOWN!!

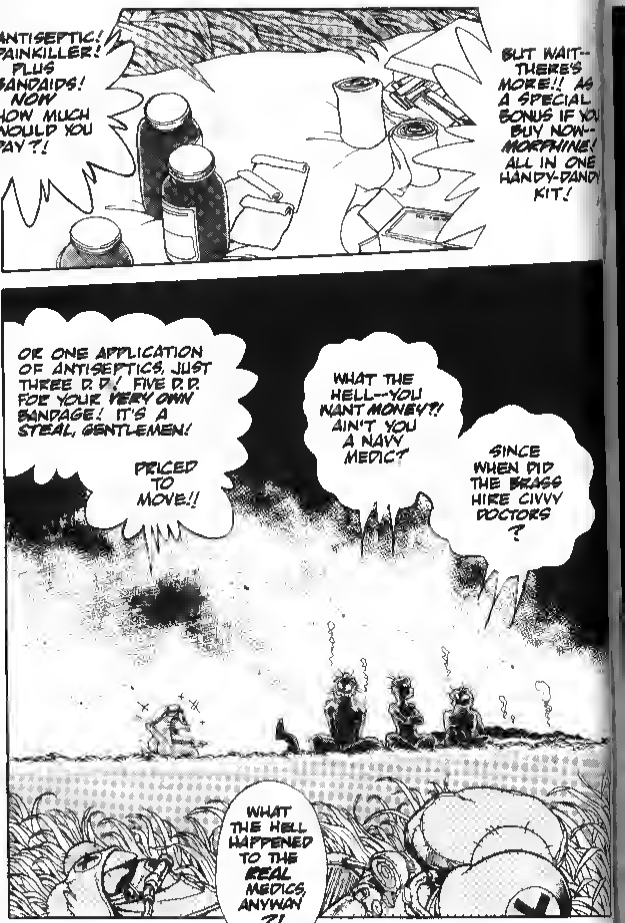
OOPS...
?
AIEEEE!!
FK

KOOM

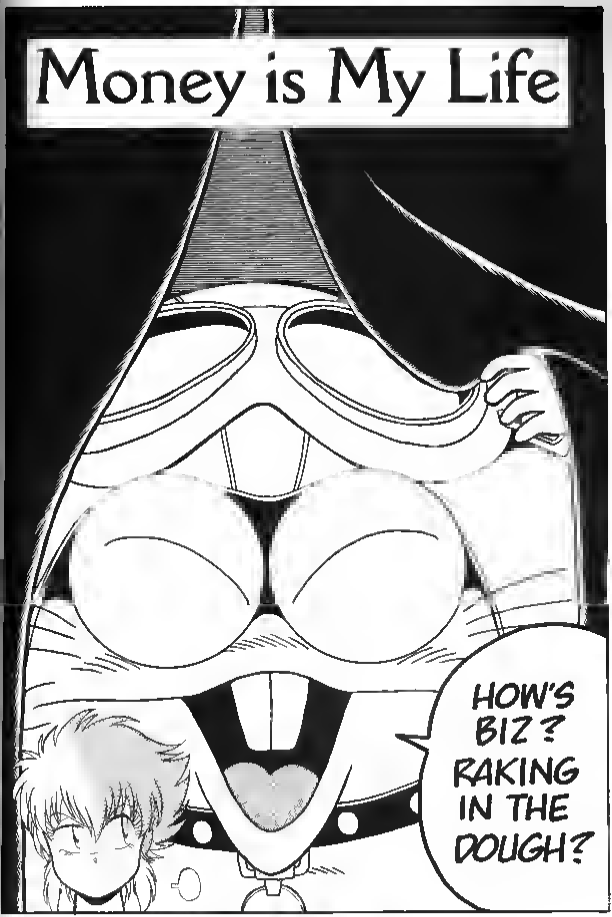
KRAMWRAMBKOOM
SKRAK
WHOOM
IT'S TOO LATE! THE FIRE'S REACHED THE MAGAZINE !!
ABANDON SHIP! ABANDON SHIP!!

HA HA HA...
WE... WE MADE IT
LOOK AT 'EM BUFN!
THAT'S YOUR PRIZE, WATARU?
GOOD WORK, CHAMP. I MEAN IT!
PAT PAT
HEH HEH
HEY.. DIDN'T THOSE GUYS CALL YOU SOMETHING?
WHAT WAS IT, NOW...?

B
I'M SURE IT STARTED WITH A B...
B...
E...
BIMBO ?
THAT'S RIGHT!
BIMBO!!
WHAT WAS THAT ?
HEH HEH... I FORGOT AGAIN HEH.
BY THE WAY. WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT PAL OF YOURS...?
AH!!
GEE, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
NO WONDER IT'S SO QUIET!
I WONDER IF HE BOUGHT IT?


ANTISEPTIC! PAINKILLER! PLUS BANDAIDS! NOW HOW MUCH WOULD YOU PAY?!
BUT WAIT-- THERE'S MORE!! AS A SPECIAL BONUS IF YOU BUY NOW-- MORPHINE! ALL IN ONE HANDY-DANDY KIT!
OR ONE APPLICATION OF ANTISEPTICS, JUST THREE D.D./ FIVE D.D. FOR YOUR VERY OWN BANDAGE! IT'S A STEAL, GENTLEMEN!
PRICED TO MOVE!!
WHAT THE HELL--YOU WANT MONEY?! AIN'T YOU A NAVY MEDIC?
SINCE WHEN DID THE BRASS HIRE CIVVY DOCTORS?
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED TO THE REAL MEDICS, ANYWAY?!

Money is My Life



WHOOF... WE'RE FINALLY HERE
GOD, I COULDN'T WALK ANOTHER STEP
GEE WHIZ! NOW WHAT ARE YOU WHINING ABOUT?
YOU MADE US WALK ABOUT TWENTY MILES, DAMN IT! MY FEET ARE ONE BIG BLISTER

WHAT A WIMP--IM A DELICATE, FRAGILE FEMALE, BUT I FEEL JUST FINE!
'CAUSE YOU RODE ALL THE WAY, BIMBO!
MIND YOUR LANGUAGE, PET! I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I'M THOROUGHLY SADDLE-SORE!
MAJOR PROBLEM WITH A BUTT THAT BIG
WHY ARE YOU IN SUCH A GOOD MOOD? YOU JUST CHEAT A STARVING ORPHAN OR SOMETHING?!
HEH HEH HEH! BUSINESS, BOY, BIG BUSINESS! I MADE A KILLING OFF THOSE WOUNDED IMPERIAL TROOPS
"KILLING" IS PROBABLY THE RIGHT WORD
I WISH THE REAL MEDICS HADN'T GOTTEN THERE SO QUICK, BUT HEY...
HEE HEE HEE
CHECK THIS OUT-- INCLUDING THE CHANGE, I FIGURE THERE'S--
HUH ?!
I'LL JUST TAKE THIS OFF YOUR HANDS THANK YOU

THIEF! ROBBER! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
I TOLD YOU I'D FEED YOU, RIGHT?
BESIDES, IT'S DANGEROUS TO WALK AROUND CARRYING THAT MUCH CASH
RRRG
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE NOT VERY CUTE WHEN YOU PUFF UP LIKE THAT
.....
NOW THEN
..I'M PARCHED-- LET'S HIT THIS BAR!
HEY! WAIT FOR ME!

BELLY UP FOLKS.
YOU'RE A NEW FACE AROUND HERE, MA'AM. WHERE YOU FROM?
SOUTH. WAY SOUTH.
I'LL HAVE A DOUBLE PARACOTO
MAKE MINE KOBU TEA WITH LOTS OF JELLY
HOW ABOUT YOU, SIR? YOU LOOK A TAD DOWN IN THE DUMPS.
Y KNOW, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE DRINK TO LIFT THE SPIRITS--
A WHOPPER BOWL OF NOODLES, TRIPLE SPICY!!
AND MAKE IT SNAPPY!!

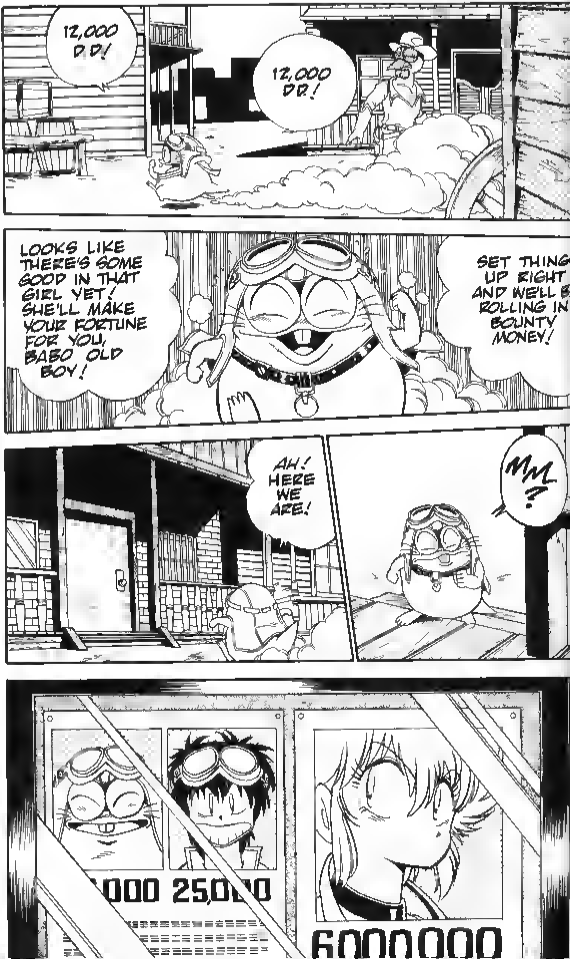
HERE YOU GO..
SLUURRRP
YOU'RE AN IDIOT!
AYEE!!
SIGHH
?
THERE SHE GOES AGAIN... WHY DOES SHE GET ALL GRIM LIKE THAT...?
SHE WON'T TELL US WHO SHE REALLY IS. SHE'S WANTED BY THE EMPIRE, BUT I FEEL THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN JUST THAT.

HEY, MIAN. ?
I WAS JUST WONDERING, YOU KNOW?
THAT THING THAT GUY SAID BACK THEN... ABOUT YOU BEING A "BREAKER"
SORRY! MY MISTAKE! I DIDN'T REALLY WANT TO KNOW!!
IT'S JUST THAT, YOU KNOW, EH HEH HEH...
WHAT A VICIOUS LOOK THAT WAS!
FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT SHE WAS GONNA KILL ME!
SCRAM, PUNK.

HEY, PRETTY THING... HAVE A DRINK WITH ME, SWEETHEART.
HEY, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE--
SHUDDUP!!
WHAK
HEY, SPECS-- GIMME A TRIPLE KOTCUT! AND PUT IT IN A DIRTY GLASS!
Y-YESSIR!
WHASSA MATTER WITH YOU, GIRL? YOU OUGHTA BE SMILING!
I'M GONNA SHOW YOU THE BEST TIME YOU EVER HAD!!
PISS OFF, JERKWAD! YOU'RE SPOILING MY DRINK
I'M IN ONE BAD MOOD!!

CHOK
♪OOPSIE♪ SILLY ME!
OH, MY GOD!
WHEN THE COPS COME, I DON'T KNOW NOTHING! I SAW NOTHING, HEARD NOTHING!
WELL, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO CRANKY IF YOU HADN'T PISSED ME OFF.

THIS IS JUST GREAT!!
THAT WAS ONE MEAN S O B YOU TOOK ON THERE, MA'AM!
DRINK UP! IT'S ON THE HOUSE!
NOW THE TOWN WILL KNOW SOME PEACE AT LAST! HALLELUJAH!
HUH! SO HE WAS A BADDIE, EH?
"BAD" DOESN'T COVER IT!
HE SAID HE WAS AN ENVOY FROM THE EMPEROR, BUT HE WAS REALLY JUST A LOW-DOWN CUTTHROAT--MURDERING, ROBBING, RAPING.
HA HA HA
BESIDES, HE HAD A 12 000 DD BOUNTY ON HIS HEAD!
HEY, BARO! DID YOU HEAR THAT?!!
A TWELVE-GRAND BOUNTY!!
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR YOUR LITTLE FRIEND, HE'S GONE TO THE SHERIFF'S TO COLLECT THE REWARD

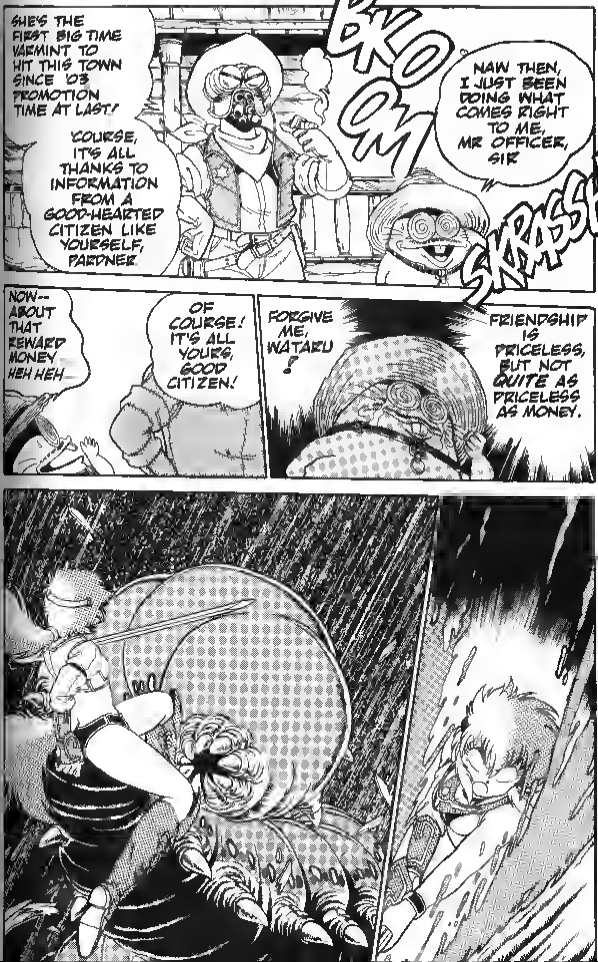

12,000 D.D!
12,000 D.D!
LOOKS LIKE THERE'S SOME GOOD IN THAT GIRL YET. SHE'LL MAKE YOUR FORTUNE FOR YOU, BABO OLD BOY!
SET THINGS UP RIGHT AND WE'LL BE ROLLING IN BOUNTY MONEY!
AH! HERE WE ARE!
MM?
000 250,0
6000,000

WH-WHAT IN THE HELL?!?
WHAT DID WE DO TO HAVE A PRICE ON OUR HEADS?!
HOLD ON THERE... JUST WAIT A MOMENT...
OF COURSE I'LL REPORT MIAN, BUT IF I THROW IN THAT DOUGHHEAD WATARU, TOO...
NATURALLY ALL THE REWARD MONEY WOULD BE MINE...
THEY'LL NEVER KNOW ME IF I PUT ON SOME KIND OF DISGUISE. THEN I JUST HAVE THEM TRANSFER THE CASH TO MY BANK...
!!
DEAR GOD, I CAN'T!!
WHAT HAVE I BEEN THINKING?!
TO IMAGINE THAT I, BABO, WOULD SELL MY FAITHFUL PARTNER DOWN THE CREEK FOR FILTHY LUCRE?!
STILL, WATARU BETRAYED ME WHEN I TRIED TO TURN MIAN IN...

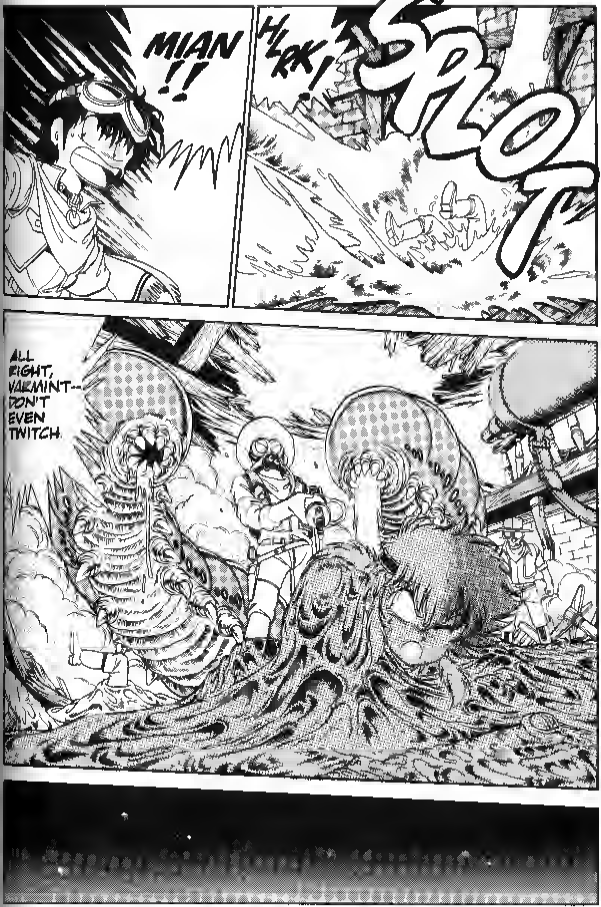
WHAT'S KEEPING THAT LITTLE JERK ?!
HE'S BEEN GONE AN HOUR ALREADY !
NOT EVEN HE COULD GET THEM TO GIVE HIM MORE THAN THE ADVERTISED REWARD... I THINK..
ATTENTION, WANTED CRIMINAL MIAN TORIS! WE'VE GOT YOU AND YOUR LACKEY SURROUNDED!!
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE !
THROW DOWN YOUR WEAPONS, AND COME OUT WITH YOUR HANDS UP!
IF YOU DON'T OBEY WE'LL HAVE TO USE FORCE !!
WHAT THE HELL... ?!
IS THIS SOME KINDA JOKE ?

SKRAASH
JEEZUS!! WHAT IN THE HELL IS THAT?!!

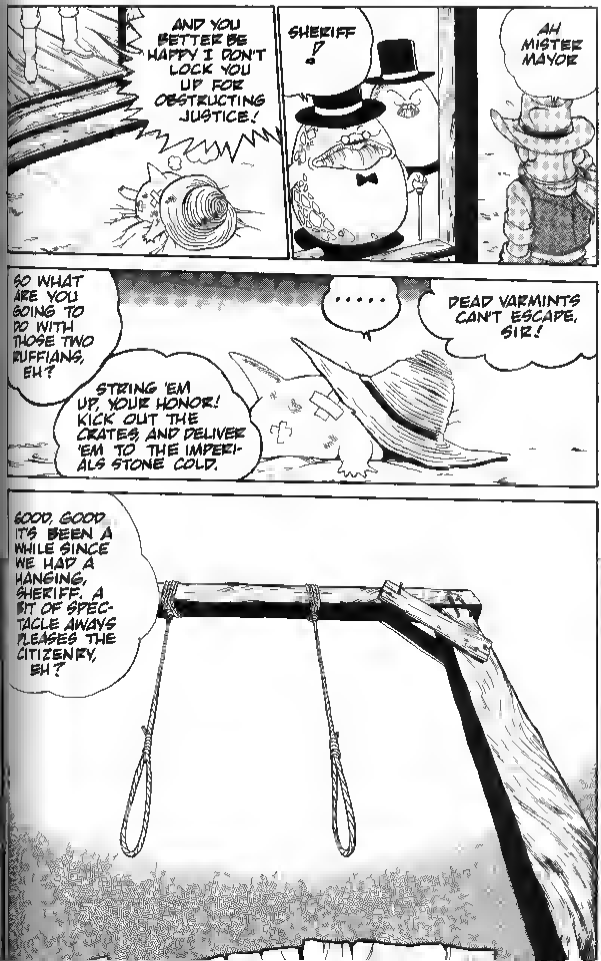
SKREAK
WATCH OUT, WATARU!
IT'S A VELD!!
SKKRNNGH
"WATCH OUT," SHE SAYS
WHKROOM


SHE'S THE FIRST BIG TIME VARMINT TO HIT THIS TOWN SINCE '03 PROMOTION TIME AT LAST!
'COURSE, IT'S ALL THANKS TO INFORMATION FROM A GOOD-HEARTED CITIZEN LIKE YOURSELF, PARDNER.
BKOOM
NAW THEN, I JUST BEEN DOING WHAT COMES RIGHT TO ME, MR OFFICER, SIR
SKRASH
NOW-- ABOUT THAT REWARD MONEY HEH HEH--
OF COURSE! IT'S ALL YOURS, GOOD CITIZEN!
FORGIVE ME, WATARU ...
FRIENDSHIP IS PRICELESS, BUT NOT QUITE AS PRICELESS AS MONEY.

SKLUSH
YECH!
GET OUT! MOVE YOUR ASS!
I'M GONE GONE GONE!
YEEK!

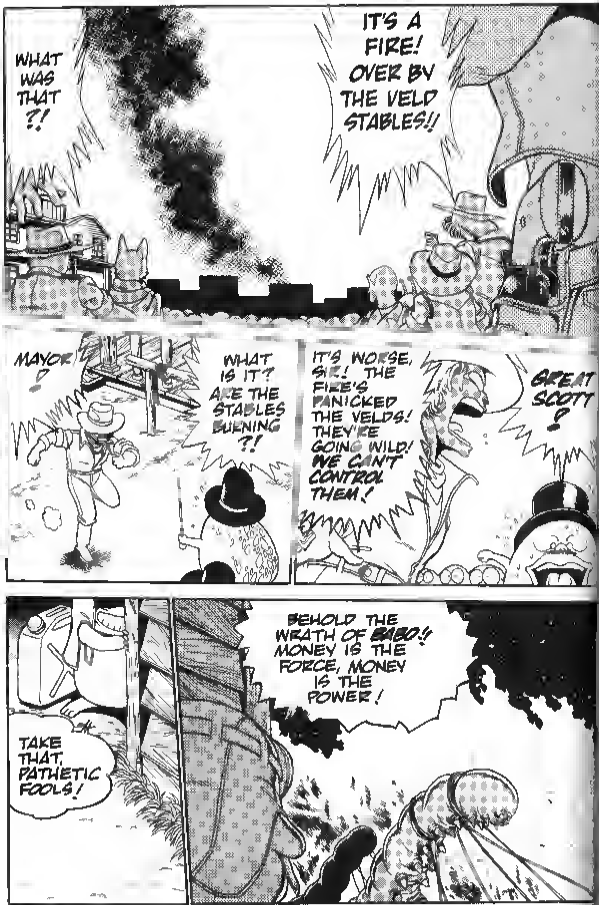

MIAN!!
HLRK!
SPOT
ALL RIGHT, VARMINT-- DON'T EVEN TWITCH.

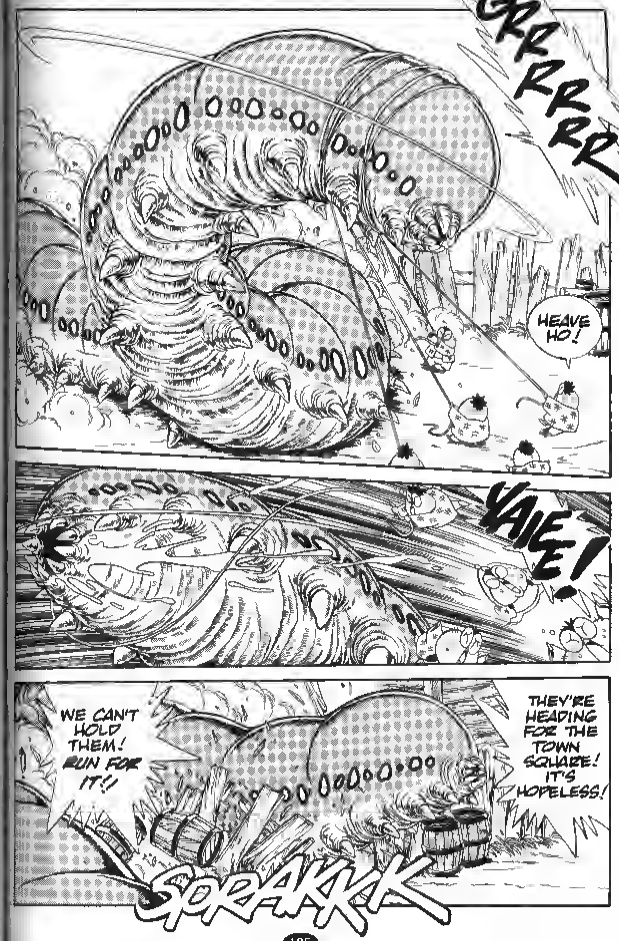
WHAT DID YOU SAY ?!!
YOU WANT TO SPLIT THE REWARD FIFTY-FIFTY?! THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU PROMISED! NO WAY!!
YOU JUST SLIPPED US THE WORD, PARDNER, ME AND THE BOYS BROUGHT HER IN
AND THEN THERE'S EXPENSES YELPS DON'T COME CHEAP, SON!
THIS TOWN'S BEEN STRAPPED FOR CASH SINCE WAY BACK! WE'LL USE THE REWARD MONEY TO COVER OUR DEFICIT FINANCING.
THAT'S NOT MY PROBLEM
AND THERE'S INCOME TAX, 'COURSE, TOWN STATUTES LEVY NINETY PERCENT ON WINDFALL PROFITS SO FORK IT OVER
TIMES POINT NINE, DIVIDED BY TWO, MINUS EXPENSES LESSEE I GET...
BEEP BEEP
AIEEE! I COME OUT OWING YOU MONEY !!!
THE LAW IS THE LAW! BUT I'LL LET YOU SLIDE JUST THIS ONCE, HAYSEED!


AND YOU BETTER BE HAPPY I DON'T LOCK YOU UP FOR OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE!
SHERIFF!
AH MISTER MAYOR
SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THOSE TWO RUFFIANS, EH?
.....
DEAD VARMINTS CAN'T ESCAPE, SIR!
STRING 'EM UP, YOUR HONOR! KICK OUT THE CRATES AND DELIVER 'EM TO THE IMPERIALS STONE COLD.
GOOD, GOOD. IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE HAD A HANGING, SHERIFF. A BIT OF SPECTACLE ALWAYS PLEASES THE CITIZENRY, EH?

AW, MAN.
HOW'D I GET MYSELF INTO THIS FIX..?
OH, BOY. WE HAVEN'T HAD A HANGING IN AGES!
HEY, YOU-- THE DOPEY ONE! CAN YOU SING OR DANCE OR SOMETHING BEFORE YOU SWING?!
YAHOO!
EAT MY SHORTS, DIRTBALL!?
DO SOMETHING, MIAN!
AT THIS RATE, WE'RE OFF TO SEE OUR MAKER!
I GUESS WE AREN'T WE..?
SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? THIS PLANET'S DOOMED, ANYWAY.
SAY WHAT?
NOTHIN NOTHIN AT ALL.

COME TO THINK OF IT, WHERE DID THAT RAT BARO GET TO?
DOESN'T HE CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO HIS FAITHFUL PARTNER?
GET HE BLINDED US IN!
SHERIFF! I FIND A PARTICULAR THRILL IN THE AGONIZED FACE OF A WOMAN IN MORTAL PAIN! LET US SAVE THE GREATEST PLEASURE FOR LAST!
GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU, MAYOR-- YOU GOT CLASS
ALL RIGHT, BOYS... STRING UP THE KID FIRST!!
WAAAHH!!
DAMN YOU! STOP! LET GO, YOU CREEPS!!
MIAN!! THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT!! I'LL COME BACK AND HAUNT YOU. YOU USELESS--
BKOOM!

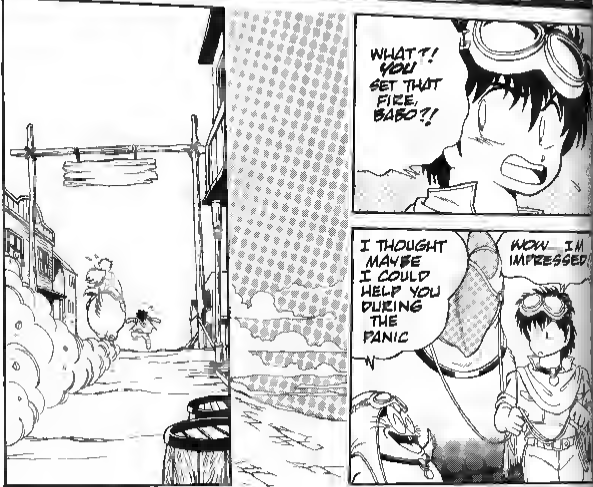

WHAT WAS THAT ?!
IT'S A FIRE! OVER BY THE VELD STABLES!!
MAYOR ?
WHAT IS IT? ARE THE STABLES BUENING ?!
IT'S WORSE, SIR! THE FIRE'S PANICKED THE VELDS! THEY'RE GOING WILD! WE CAN'T CONTROL THEM!
GREAT SCOTT ?
BEHOLD THE WRATH OF BABO!! MONEY IS THE FORCE, MONEY IS THE POWER!
TAKE THAT, PATHETIC FOOLS!


GRRRRR
HEAVE HO!
YAIE!
WE CAN'T HOLD THEM! RUN FOR IT!!
THEY'RE HEADING FOR THE TOWN SQUARE! IT'S HOPELESS!
SPRAKK

EEEEK!!
SPLORK
SHEEIFF! DO SOMETHING! ANYTHING?
LIKE WHAT?!
!!
HUH?!

YO!
YOU POLECAT!?
BABO?!
!
WHUD
WHRAK
THANKS, BABO! YOU SAVED OUR LIVES!
RIGHT, RIGHT! NOW LET'S ESCAPE IN ALL THE CONFUSION, KIDDIES!

AFTER THEM!!
THEY'RE ESCAPING!?

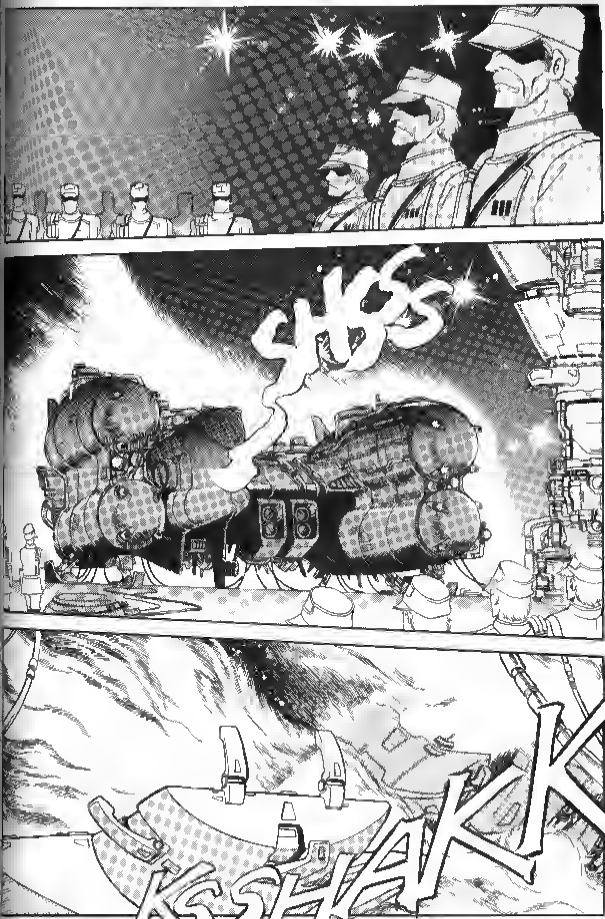

WHAT?! YOU SET THAT FIRE, BABO?!
I THOUGHT MAYBE I COULD HELP YOU DURING THE PANIC
WOW... I'M IMPRESSED!

THIS IS A CHANGE-- I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU MOVE YOUR BUTT FOR ANYTHING EXCEPT COLD HARD CASH
HOW CAN YOU SAY SOMETHING SO CRUEL?!
YOU AND I ARE TRUE AMIGOS, DEAR WATARU, BOUND BY INSEPARABLE BONDS OF BROTHERHOOD!
MONEY CANNOT BUY TRUE FRIENDSHIP, MY BOY!
.....
.....
STILL, IT SURE FELT GOOD SETTING THAT FIRE--ALL MY FRUSTRATIONS SOLVED BY A SINGLE LITTLE MATCH!!
I ♡ ARSON!
AND WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
YEAH JUST WHY WERE YOU SO FRUSTRATED, HMM?
URK!
ER, UM OH NOTHING SPECIAL, HEH HEH, JUST WELL, HEH HEH...
.....
.....

LIKE, MAYBE NOT GETTING SOMETHING YOU EXPECTED TO GET, MMM?
OH YEAH, RIGHT!! OF COURSE! THAT NASTY OLD SHERIFF WOULDN'T PAY YOUR REWARD FOR THAT GUY YOU KILLED
DOESN'T THAT JUST BURN YOU UP?!
I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND-- HOW CAN SOME PEOPLE BE SO STINGY?!
HMPH! FORGET I EVEN ASKED!
AND SO... NOW WHAT DO WE DO?
-WHEW-... CLOSE SHAVE, BABO!

A Pervert's Lot is Not a Happy One

VNNVNN VNNVN
SHREEE

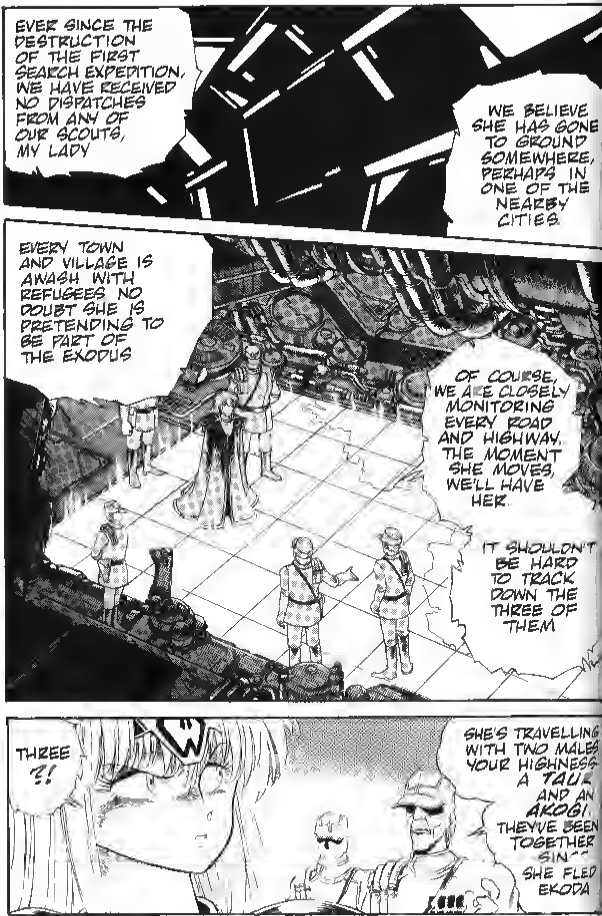

SHSS
KSSHAKK

ALL HAIL TO THE EMPRESS SHION!

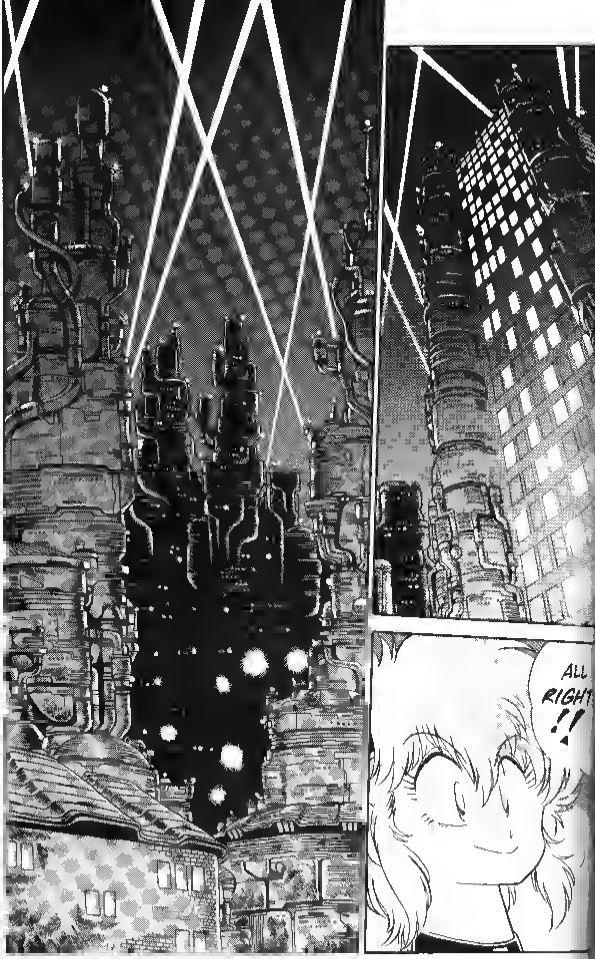
YOU DO US GREAT HONOR WITH THIS UNEXPECTED VISIT, YOUR HIGHNESS!
I FEAR WE HAVE NOT HAD TIME TO PREPARE A PROPER WELCOME-- PLEASE FORGIVE US THIS DISRESPECT!
NONE OF US DREAMED THAT YOUR HIGHNESS WOULD FEIGN TO VISIT AN INCONSEQUENTIAL FRONTIER POST SUCH AS--
ENOUGH! IS THE SECOND SEARCH EXPEDITION READY FOR ACTION ?!
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS
I WILL COMMAND THE OPERATION ?!
HIGHNESS ?
WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME, COMMANDER! I CAN NO LONGER LEAVE THIS TO YOUR ARMY OF INCOMPETENT FOOLS!

YOUR HIGHNESS !?
I CRAVE YOUR FORGIVENESS I HAVE LOST ONE OF THE EMPIRE'S PRECIOUS WARSHIPS.
WE WERE WITHIN A HAIR'S BREADTH OF CAPTURING MIAN TORIS! JUST A FEW MOMENTS LONGER AND---
...
...
WHF
CHO

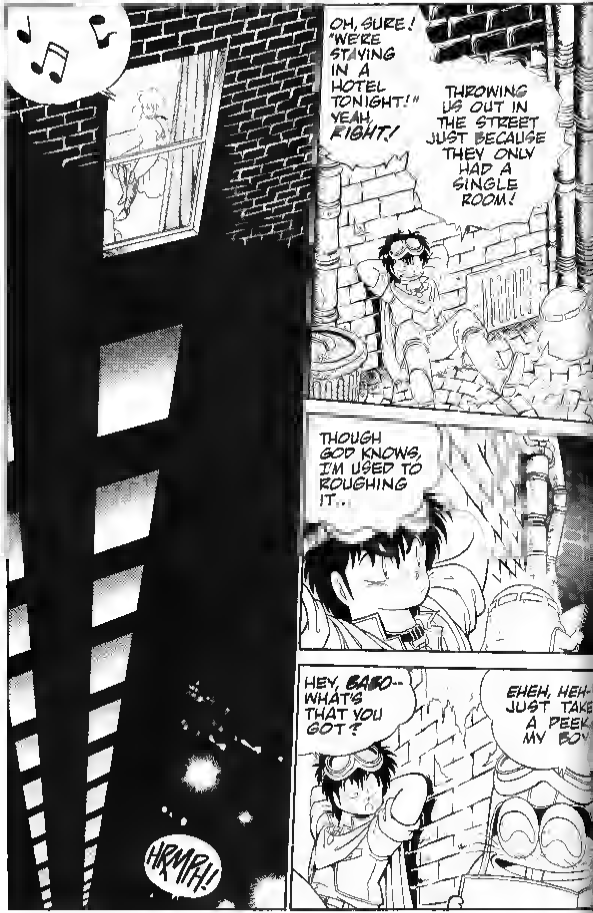
SPLAK
AAA!
YUP.
APOLOGY ACCEPTED, COMMANDER BARDUM.
SLAP
STOP THAT, GAUL-- YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR DIGESTION WHEN YOU EAT GARBAGE
CONFOUND IT. . CAN'T ANY OF MY MEN DO ANYTHING RIGHT?!


EVER SINCE THE DESTRUCTION OF THE FIRST SEARCH EXPEDITION, WE HAVE RECEIVED NO DISPATCHES FROM ANY OF OUR SCOUTS, MY LADY
WE BELIEVE SHE HAS GONE TO GROUND SOMEWHERE, PERHAPS IN ONE OF THE NEARBY CITIES.
EVERY TOWN AND VILLAGE IS AWASH WITH REFUGEES NO DOUBT SHE IS PRETENDING TO BE PART OF THE EXODUS
OF COURSE, WE ARE CLOSELY MONITORING EVERY ROAD AND HIGHWAY. THE MOMENT SHE MOVES, WE'LL HAVE HER.
IT SHOULDN'T BE HARD TO TRACK DOWN THE THREE OF THEM.
THREE ?!
SHE'S TRAVELLING WITH TWO MALES YOUR HIGHNESS: A TAUE AND AN AKODI. THEY'VE BEEN TOGETHER SIN-- SHE FLED EKODA

I SEE..
SO. THEY WILL BE HER SPECIMENS...
"SPECIMENS," MY LADY...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
YOU WILL UNDERSTAND SOON ENOUGH
SIR! THE SECOND SEARCH EXPEDITION IS READY TO DEPART
VERY WELL
SO, TORIS-- YOU RE REALLY GOING THROUGH WITH IT


ALL RIGHT!!

NOT BAD, NOT BAD AT ALL! NOT FOR 200 DD A DAY, TWO MEALS INCLUDED...
I LIKE IT!
AAHH.. A GIRL NEEDS A SOFT BED NOW AND THEN!
OF COURSE, IT'S A BIT ROUGH ON THOSE TWO CLOWNS...
BUT WHO CARES?
FIRST A HOT BATH, AND THEN CHOW!


OH, SURE! "WE'RE STAYING IN A HOTEL TONIGHT!" YEAH, RIGHT.!
THROWING US OUT IN THE STREET JUST BECAUSE THEY ONLY HAD A SINGLE ROOM!
THOUGH GOD KNOWS, I'M USED TO ROUGHING IT..
HEY, BABO-- WHAT'S THAT YOU GOT?
EHEH, HEH- JUST TAKE A PEEK MY BOY
HRMPH!

WOW!!
PEETTY GOOD EH? EH? I FOUND IT IN THE TRASH OVER THERE
THIS STUFF IS HOT! THEY'RE SHOWING EVERYTHING!
CHECK OUT THIS OLIPHARA BABE--TASTY, EH, LADDIE?!
WATARU, MY BOY, AS SOON AS I MAKE ME SOME REAL MONEY I'M STARTING A HAREM!
IT'LL BE BABES, BABES, BABES... DAY AND NIGHT!

TELL YOU WHAT WHEN I START MY HAREM, I'LL LET ONE OF THE GIRLS BREAK YOU IN--HOW ABOUT IT?!
WHAT?!
THANKS BUT NO THANKS!
I'M *WORRIED* ABOUT YOU, SON...STILL A VIRGIN AT YOUR AGE..
I DON'T NEED *YOUR* ADVICE ♡
I'M NOT LIKE *YOU*, BABO! I DON'T FALL FOR EVERY MASSAGE PARLOR POOCH YOU CAN BUY FOR FIVE DR.!
OOH! HOW *DARE* YOU!
PROFESSIONAL GIRLS ARE THE VERY BEST!
I LOVE 'EM ALL--*MAKI* AT THE VELTA, AND *KEI* OVER AT THE BOOM-BOOM ROOM, AND ♡
HAH! JUST WAIT! ONE OF THESE DAYS YOU'RE GONNA *CATCH* SOMETHING AND IT'LL *ROT* RIGHT OFF!
HMM...NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, IT STINGS SOMETHING FIERCE WHEN I--
I DON'T WISH TO KNOW THAT!

BUT SERIOUSLY, NOW, WATARU...
HUH?
DON'T YOU THINK MIAN'S GOT A GREAT BUTT?!
WHOK...
WHAT TH-- WHAT THE HELL BROUGHT THAT ON?!
NO, REALLY-- I THINK SHE'S GOT A DYNAMITE BOD
WHAT'S THE MATTER-- AREN'T YOU INTO THAT?
I DON'T CARE HOW SHE LOOKS! SHE'S GOT THE PERSONALITY OF A VIPER!
YOU'RE NAIVE, BOY! YOU CAN ALWAYS CHANGE THAT!
NOW DIDN'T THE YOUNG LADY SAY SOMETHING ABOUT... TAKING A BATH?
WHAT ARE YOU--
....
....
HEE HEE HEE HEE...
WELL?!
WELL?!

...IGHT! NOW FOR THAT NICE HOT BATH ♪
♪TA-DAAA!♪
SHRIEK
IS THIS SOME KIND OF JOKE ?!

HELLO?! I WANT TO SPEAK TO THE MANAGER!?
WHAT THE HELL KIND OF BATHTUB IS THAT?!
♫ YOU HAVE REACHED OUR AUTOMATED ANSWERING SYSTEM NO ONE CAN ANSWER THE PHONE AT THIS TIME ♫ PLEASE LEAVE YOUR NAME AND MESSAGE AFTER THE BEEP AND WE'LL GET BACK TO YOU AS--
WHO EVER HEARD OF A FRONT DESK WITH A STINKIN' ANSWERING MACHINE?!
NOK NOK
GOOD EVENING, MA'AM!
SPECIAL ROOM SERVICE AT YOUR COMMAND!
"ROOM SERVICE"?! I DIDN'T ORDER ANYTHING!
WELL, UH ER, THIS I SPECIAL ROOM SERVICE.
AT THIS HOTEL WE WASH OUR GUESTS' BACKS IN THE BATH AS A FREE BONUS, MA'AM!
AND, IF YOU PLEASE, WE CAN WASH THE FRONT, TOO--

YOU CALL THAT A DISGUISE ?!!
WRAKK
GEE, AND I THOUGHT IT WAS PERFECT..
NUMB-SKULL!
BUT HEY... I WASN'T JOKING ABOUT WASHING YOUR--
NO THANK YOU !
DAMN IT ALL, ANYWAY-- THAT CREEP BABO WAS SUPPOSED TO BACK ME UP.
ALL HE SAID WAS THAT HE WANTED TO DO IT HIS WAY.

HEY, ISN'T IT HOT ENOUGH YET? I'M GONNA PASS OUT, DAMMIT!
KEEP BLOWING ON THAT FIRE, BOY. IT'S STILL LUKEWARM.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT-- LEMME SEE...
HMM... THIS MUST BE YOU-- LEG..
SMAK!
OUCH! I WASN'T DOING ANYTHING, FOR PETE'S SAKE!
HANDS OFF SONNY!
!
BLUP
BLUP BLUP BLRK
SBLOPP!

AH HA HA!!
NO! I DIDN'T! IT WASN'T ME!
WHEW! THAT WAS A RIPE ONE!
STOP THAT! IM TELLING YOU--
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING, DAMMIT!
YEAH, SURE!! YAHA-HAHA!
BLOW ALL TANKS... SURFACE!
BLUBBLE BLUBBLE

OH, BOY, WHAT A RELIEF!!
....
....
OUT WE GO...
AHHH... THAT FELT GREAT!
ALL RIGHT, YOU LITTLE TROLL--

KRAK
KRAK
OH MY GOD! RUN FOR IT, BABO-- SHE'S GONNA KILL YOU!
!
BEHOLD !!
!!
FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER !
FULL FRONTAL PICS OF MIAN TORIS !!

AAAAH!?
HOW DARE YOU, YOU PERVERTED CREEP! GIVE ME THOSE!!
POLLFLT!
I SAID GIVE THEM TO ME!!
SKRASH!
WHOR
THUD
NYAAH! CATCH ME IF YOU CAN!
WAY TO GO, BABO! I'LL TAKE THREE SETS!! MAKE 'EM 8X10 GLOSSYS!
DEATH-DEFYING UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY LIKE THAT COMES EXPENSIVE, MY BOY!
PAINT
GAG
RRGG... NGG... RRGH!
UH-OH--

WAAAAHHH!!!
HUH?
SHE...SHE'S CRYING!!!
Y-YOU'RE RIGHT!!
NOW WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO, BABO?! YOU MADE HER CRY! IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
EGAD, PROFESSOR... A TOTALLY UNFORESEEN REACTION!
RIGHT-- I'M OUGHTA HERE!
HEY!! WAIT!! COME BACK HERE!

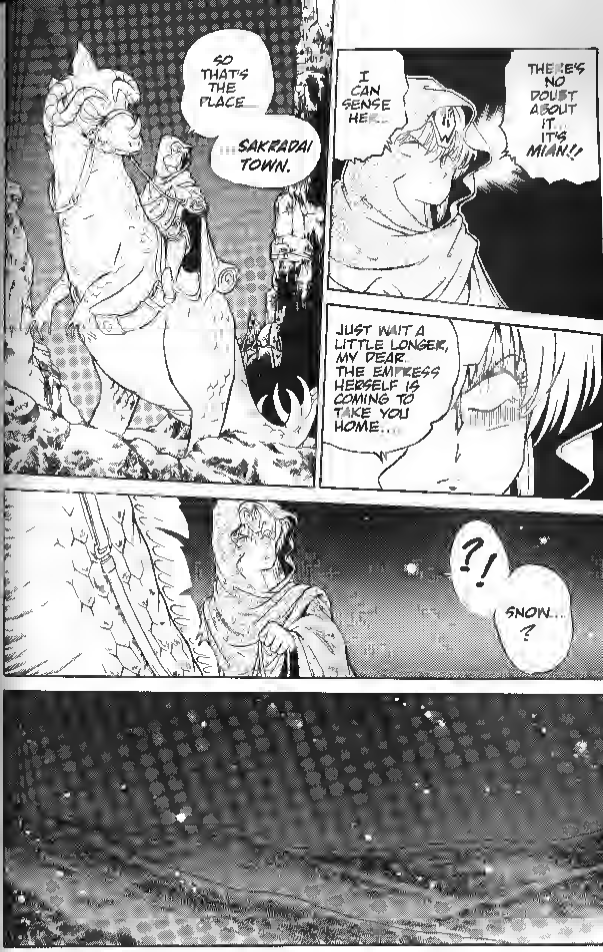
WAAH
AHUH
AHUH!
WH-WHAT SHOULD I DO? WHAT DO YOU DO AT TIMES LIKE THIS?
UH... HEY! DON'T CRY! IT'S NOT THAT BAD
IT'S JUST A BAD JOKE, EH? I MEAN YOU KNOW BABO
SNIF
SOB
IT'S TOO LATE
I JUST KNOW IT SOME EVIL MAN WILL GET THOSE PHOTOGRAPHS
SNIFF
HE'LL THREATEN TO SPREAD THEM ALL OVER TOWN
HE'LL FORCE ME TO SELL MY BODY
MY PURE BODY AND HEART WILL BE SOILED, STAINED.
I HAVE TO KILL MYSELF-- IT'S THE ONLY WAY
SNIFF
W-W-WAIT A MINUTE!
YOU'RE OVERREACTING-- HONEST! IT'S NOT THAT BAD!
OH, PLEASE, WATARU, MY DARLING!! PLEASE GET THOSE PICTURES BACK FOR ME!
HUH? ME?!

OH GOD, THAT GETS TO ME! A STRONG GIRL IN TEARS- I CAN'T RESIST IT!
JUST LIKE ME!~ JOH!
I UNDERSTAND!
YOU JUST WANT THEM BACK, RIGHT?! WELL, DON'T YOU WORRY YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD-- I'LL GET THEM!
-SNIFF-
YOU WILL?!
OH, THANK YOU! I'M SO HAPPY!!
HEY, IT'S NOTHING! HEH-HEH..
I'LL BRING THEM RIGHT BACK FOR YOU, SO DON'T YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT SUICIDE OR NOTHING!
GOOD LUCK, MY DARLING DEAR!
....
.....

THEY'RE SUCH COMPLETE IDIOTS
THESE HUMAN MALES
STOP RIGHT THERE, BABO! I'VE GOT YOU NOW! GIVE ME THOSE PICTURES! AND THE NEGATIVES!
WHAK
THUD
WHMP
SMAK
FMP
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING! YOU SHIT-FOR-BRAINS SCHMUCK!
SLAM
I-I GOT THEM BACK, BY GOD!!
HAHHH

GOOD WORK!!
FWAP
MUG' BE A RELIEF, HUH...?
NOW YOU WON'T HAVE TO KILL Y'RSELF ANYMORE
HUH?
OH, RIGHT, RIGHT!
GUESS I SHOULD THANK YOU...!!
AW SHUCKS I DON'T NEED ANY THANKS
THIS ONE PRINT IS REWARD ENOUGH!!
CENSORED
SKRAASH!

The Arrival
of Empress
Shion


SO THAT'S THE PLACE...
...SAKRADAI TOWN.
I CAN SENSE HER...
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. IT'S MIAN!!
JUST WAIT A LITTLE LONGER, MY DEAR. THE EMPRESS HERSELF IS COMING TO TAKE YOU HOME...
?!
SNOW...?

NO WAY!
HEE HEE
HMPH...IT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME WORK TRACKING HER DOWN IN THIS CROWD...
YOUNG LADY! PRETTY FINERY FOR A PRETTY FACE! THE REAL THING--NOT CHEAP IMITATIONS!
YECK!
G-GOOD LORD!!
SUCH AN EVIL EYE...

COMING THROUGH !?
COMING THROUGH, I SAY !?
DAMN IT, BABO! THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT!
MY FAULT LIKE HELL, YOU GULLIBLE TWERP !?
HM ?
KWHUDD
URGG...
IDIOT! DORK! PINHEAD!
OWWW! ERK ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MAAM?
SORRY ABOUT THAT, BUT--

WATARU! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?! WE GOTTA RUN!!
OH YEAH, UH--
HONEST, MAAM-- SORRY!
HEY?
HEY YOU! JUST A--
WHERE THE HELL ARE THEY?!

PREPARE FOR SUDDEN DEATH, YOU TWO CREEPS!

COME BACK HERE ND DIE LIKE MEN !!
AIEEEE! SHE FOUND US, BABO!!
TELL HER MEN DON'T LIKE WOMEN WITH HOT TEMPERS !
MIAN...?!
HOW DARE YOU YANK MY TAIL, YOU LITTLE--
IT WAS BABO! HE SAID IT WAS FAKE!
DID NOT. DID NOT! JUST SAID MAYBE, I SAID!
.....
.....

GREAT! THROWN OUT OF THE HOTEL AGAIN!
WE'RE RIGHT BACK TO WHERE WE STARTED
NOT QUITE WATARU-- THIS TIME IT'S COLD!!
SHEE-IT I HATE WINTER CAMPING
ALAS, A GLOOMY NEW YE...
-sigh-
USUALLY I'D BE TAKING IT IN THIS TIME OF YEAR...
AW, KNOCK IT OFF, ALREADY THERE ISN'T ANYTHING LEFT TO SELL ANYHOW!
NEVER SAY IT, LAD! AN AKOGI DOESN'T GIVE UP! WE'RE ALL BORN BUCK NAKED" AS MY DEAR PAPA USED TO SAY!

HERE YOU GO DEARIE. JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE THEM
MMm, FEEL THAT HEAT.
NOTHING BETTER FOR A COLD WINTER NIGHT!
GET 'EM WHILE THEY'RE HOT!
MAYBE I SHOULD SHARE THIS WITH THEM...?
SEE. MAYBE I OVERDID IT. KICKING THEM OUT WITHOUT A DD ON A NIGHT LIKE THIS?
YOU'VE GONE SOFT, MIAN
TAP
THAT BABO IS GETTING TOO BIG FOR HIS BRITCHES!
STILL, EVEN IF WATARU IS JUST A HARMLESS DRIP

NOT EVEN NOTICING I WAS TAILING YOU...
I KNEW YOU WERE THERE
I WAS JUST IGNORING YOU
WERE YOU REALLY
SO THOSE TWO CLOWNS ARE YOUR "FAITHFUL RETAINERS?!"
NOT EXACTLY SUPERHERO MATERIAL, ARE THEY?
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, LEAVE THEM ALONE!!
I DON'T THINK I CAN DO THAT YOU SEE, I'M HERE TO TAKE YOU HOME
HOW VERY THOUGHTFUL OF YOU...!
AND SO
SHALL WE BE GOING?

!!
MIAN, STOP!!
STILL YOU TRY TO ESCAPE?! EVEN NOW AT THIS CRITICAL TIME?!!
OUCH! HOT HOT HOT!
WHAT'S TAKING YOU SO LONG, NATARU?! THIRTY MORE, ON THE DOUBLE!
DON'T BLAME ME IF YOU GET CAUGHT
WHAT ME WORRY?
THEY'RE PERFECT BODY-WARMER PACKS

PERFECT, HUH? PLASTIC BAGS OF HOT WATER WRAPPED IN OLD RAGS? THEY'LL BE STONE COLD IN TWENTY MINUTES
SSSSHHH'! THE CUSTOMERS'LL HEAR YOU!
YOU'RE RIGHT, OF COURSE. BUT HEY, BY THEN WE'LL BE LONG GONE.
OH IT'S SO NICE AND WARM! ♡
NOTHING LIKE WARMER PACKS TO BEAT THE CHILL!
STEP RIGHT UP! BUY A BABO-PAK! DOUBLE THE HEAT, HALF THE PRICE! JUST 1 D.D.!
NYAHAHA, IT'S SMALL CHANGE, I KNOW..
BUT SINCE I MAKE THEM FROM TRASH, IT'S ALL PROFIT!! LOVELY PROFIT!
HEY! BABO!! WATARU!!
HUH ?
OH GREAT.. HERE SHE COMES.

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK UPSET
I'LL TELL YOU LATER! JUST GRAB OUR GEAR, DOUBLE-QUICK! WE'VE GOT TO CLEAR OUT! NOW!!
YOU WANT TO LEAVE NOW? BUT YOU SAID WE HAD UNTIL MORNING--
DAMN STRAIGHT! I'VE GOT A THRIVING BUSINESS TO PROTECT, HERE!
AH?!
SPLUKSH
EEEEK! WHAT IS THIS! IT'S LEAKING!!
!!
WHAT THE HECK? THERE'S NOTHIN' BUT WATER INSIDE!
YOU'RE RIGHT! NO WONDER THEY'RE SO DAMN CHEAP!
BABO! THE CAT'S OUTTA THE BAG!
OH DEARIE ME
KILL THE FAKERS!!!

W-W-WAIT! WE CAN EXPLAIN-!?
OH, MIAAN!?
YOU LOUSY SCUM!?
GIVE BACK MY MONEY!?
TO HELL WITH THAT!?
KRNCH
WHDD
FWAK
GUHOK
MIAN!?
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE ME, MIAN!?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE A LITTLE MORE SENSIBLE. WHAT A SHAME.
.....
.....
HEY WATARU-- LOOK!
IT'S HER AGAIN !?
I HAD SO WANTED TO SETTLE THIS WITHOUT ANYONE GETTING HURT...
WELL, LIFE'S LIKE THAT...
OHMIGOD! SWORDS! I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THIS
MIAN !?

IF I MUST TAKE YOU BY FORCE, THEN SO BE IT!
YOU NEVER GIVE UP, DO YOU?!
KSHAWANG
YOU STILL REALLY THINK...
YOU CAN BE A BREAKER?!!

KANGG
SHINGG
HEY! WATCH IT!!
FIGHT! FIGHT!
CHECK OUT THE CATFIGHT!!
WHOOF... I'M GETTING TOO OLD FOR THIS.
THAT IDIOT! SHE'S STARTED ANOTHER FIGHT!
KRANGG!
NOW SHE'S REALLY DONE IT!
WHO IS THAT WOMAN, ANYWAY...?
HEY, WATARU! WANNA LAY BETS ON WHO WINS?!

HOW CAN YOU EVEN THINK OF THAT, YOU GREEDY LITTLE GNOME?!
HEY, WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? LET HER FIGHT IF SHE WANTS TO I'D PUT A 100 D.D. ON MIAN TO WIN!
DONE, MY MAN! GIMME 250 ON THE BLONDE CHICK!
HUH ?
300 D.D. ON THE REDHEAD!
400 ON BLONDIE!
500 ON THE FOXTAIL!
I'M FOR THE FOX! 300 DD!
WELL, HECK-- 450 ON BLONDIE!
500 ?
550 ?
HEY! WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON ?!
LET'S SEE 10% BROKER'S FEE 400 PLUS 250 PLUS
HOLY COW! THIS IS SERIOUS DOUGH !?
STEP RIGHT UP! BABO'S BETTING PARLOR IS OPEN!
GET IN NOW AND SAVE 2%! HEY, GAMBLE THE STASH! BE AN INSTANT MILLIONAIRE!

GO FOR IT, FOXTAIL! SWING THAT SWORD, BABY!
I GOT 300 DD RIDING ON YOU!
HAVE AT HE, BLONDIE! CUT HER TO PIECES!!
STOP THAT! WE'RE NOT A STINKIN' FREAK SHOW!!
HEY! WATCH WHAT YOU'RE DOIN', RED!!
EH?
THRANG
EEK!
SKRASH!

MIAN!
ARE ARE YOU OKAY?!!
OUCH! I HURT MY BUTT!
WHY'S THIS TAKING SO LONG, MIAN?! ARE YOU REALLY TRYING TO KILL HER?
DAMN IT, WATARU! NO HELPING!
IT SCREWS UP THE ODDS!
BOO! HISS!
AW, GET STUFFED!
HEY WATARU!
EH?
JUST WHO THE HELL DID YOU BET ON?
ME?
UH, YES, WELL
GOOD ON MIAN! NO, BOO!
THAT'S BETTER!
WATARU GETS BOO ON MIAN

THIS IS THE END FOR YOU, MIAN!!!
YAIEE!
♪PWEEEE!♪
OH RATS! IT'S THE RIOT POLICE

HALT!! NAKED BLADES ON A PUBLIC THOROUGHFARE! DUELING IN DEFIANCE OF THE EDICTS!!
I ARREST YOU FOR VIOLATION OF CODE 09883 AND ANYTHING ELSE WE CAN THINK OF!!
OH NO!!
I'LL NEVER COLLECT MY 10%!!
LISTEN UP MEN! ARE YOU GOING TO LET THEM STOP A PRIZE FIGHT?!
GET THE PIGS!!
!!
YEAH!! COPPERS GO HOME!!
POLICE BRUTALITY!!
GBLURK!

KBAMF
YAGH!
Pof
Pof
RUN FOR IT! TEAR GAS!?
YAIEE-AARRGH!
Koff
Koff
CHARGE!!
ARREST EVERYONE FOR OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE!!

C'MON, MIAN! WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!
KOFF KOFF
WAIT! MIAN! COME BACK!
KOFF!
HALT IN THE NAME OF THE LAW! DROP YOUR WEAPON!

GRK
ACK
AHK
MIAN !!!
GET BACK HERE, MIAN !!!
DAMN - LOST HER AGAIN
AS SLIPPERY AS ALWAYS, MIAN TORIS
SHE'S FADING I CAN'T SENSE HER
SHE MUST BE HEADING OUT OF TOWN

OUCH!!
OUCH!
IT HURTS, I'M TELLING YOU!
YOU CLUMSY OAF! CAN'T YOU BE MORE GENTLE?!
STOP YOUR WHINING!
JUST BE HAPPY YOU'RE NOT IN THE SLAMMER.
OH, WOE IS ME! MY SWEET MONEY'S ALL GONE, I GOT A BUMP ON MY HEAD HAS THERE EVER BEEN A MORE WRETCHED DAY?!
IF WE'RE LUCKY, MAYBE SHE'S DEAD AND ROTTING SOMEWHERE
WATCH YOUR MOUTH!!
HEY WHERE'S MIAN?
AH THERE YOU ARE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
COME OVER BY THE FIRE AND GET WARM!!

. . . . .
. . . . .
I DUNNO, BABO.. SHE'S ACTING KINDA STRANGE...
FORGET HER, BOY. FORGET HER.
SHE'S JUST PISSED OFF. SHE COULDN'T KILL SOMEBODY.
WHAT INTERESTS ME, THOUGH, IS HOW YOU'RE RUNNING AROUND WITH YOUR NOSE IN HER TAIL
DON'T BE A MORON!!
YOU FALLING IN LOVE, BOY? EH? EH?!!
HE'S BLUSHING! VIRGIN BOY IS BLUSHING!
GET OFF MY BACK!!!
CHUD
WHAT'D YOU DO THAT FOR?! YOU GAVE ME ANOTHER BUMP!!
YEAH, BUT ON YOU IT LOOKS GOOD!

HOLD STILL - LEMME ADD ANOTHER
GET OFF!!
.....
SHION..
MIAN THERE'S NOTHING OUT HERE FOR YOU BUT DESPAIR COME BACK TO ME. MIAN
BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE..

The Problem with Wataru
SERIOUS E YES!

WHKAAM!
BK
OOM

HOW THE HELL D WE GET INTO THIS ONE?!
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT, MIAN! IT WAS YOUR IDEA TO SET UP CAMP OUT HERE!
WHAM
HOW SHOULD I KNOW THEY'D RESERVED IT FOR SHOOTING WAR?!
HMM... I WONDER WHO'S TAKING ON THE EMPIRE'S ARMOR?
WHY DON'T YOU WONDER ABOUT GETTING US OUT OF HERE?!
DD
BKOOM
YAEEE!
HEY, HEY, WATARU! GET A LOAD OF THESE WACKY TANKS.
TANKS?
WHAT THE HECK? THOSE THINGS ARE TANKS?!
WOW...

GRAARGH!
BKAMM
WHAT ARMY IS IT Y'THINK ?
NO IDEA--BUT THEY'RE DAMN STRONG WHOEVER THEY ARE! THE EMPIRE'S GETTING STOMPED
WHKOOM

HMM... COMMANDER'S LOG, CIGARETTES.. HEY!
AW, IT'S JUST A LOUSY I.D CARD.
DIDN'T THESE GUYS CARRY ANYTHING WORTH DECENT MONEY? BUNCHA CHEAP STIFFS!
WHEW GUESS IT'S FINALLY OVER.
EUREKA!! THIS GUY'S GOT GOLD FILLINGS! HOLD HIS HEAD, WATARU!
JESUS, BABO! WOULD YOU STOP THAT?!
DAMNED INCONSIDERATE, WHOEVER THEY ARE. COULDN'T THEY FIGHT THEIR WAR SOMEWHERE ELSE?
AS LONG AS THEY STAY WELL AWAY FROM US, I'M HAPPY.
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU ASSHOLES?!
HOLD IT!!

HEY KHADA! C'MERE!
WHO ARE THESE GUYS?
BEATS ME, BOSS WE FOUND THEM LOOKING AROUND THE BATTLEFIELD
HOW MANY TIMES DO I GOTTA TELL YOU?! WE GOT TRAPPED IN YOUR DAMNED SHOOTOUT, THAT'S WHAT!
YOU TELL 'EM, WATARU! WE'RE HONEST UPRIGHT CITIZENS!
C'MON, MIAN! TELL THEM WHAT HAPPENED!
WHY? YOU THINK THEY'LL BELIEVE ME JUST BECAUSE I'M A WOMAN, TOO?
A WOMAN TOO?!
HEY, YOU'RE RIGHT-- THEY'RE ALL WOMEN!!
WOW! COMBAT BABES! ♡
WE'RE CALLED GRIEF-- THE WOMEN'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMORED BRIGADE!

"GRIEF"...?
WHY ARE YOU--
'CAUSE THAT'S WHAT WE'RE GONNA GIVE THE EMPIRE! WE'LL DRIVE THOSE HELGEBARD BASTARDS INTO THE SEA!
DON'T FOOL YOURSELF, HONEY.
WHAT?!
MIAN!! JEEZ!
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE! MIAN, MIAN...
I'VE HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE.
!
NOW I GOT IT! SO YOU'RE THE NOTORIOUS MIAN TORIS
THE WOMAN WITH THE SIX MILLION D'D BOUNTY ON HER HEAD!
SO WHAT'S IT TO YA?!
YOU WANT THE MONEY, YOU COME AND GET IT!
HAW! DON'T SWEAT IT, DARLIN'! YOU'RE A HERO!!

HEY, GIRLS! CUT THOSE ROPES!
HUH?
COME ON! THINK ABOUT IT-- I'M THE LEADER OF A BUNCH OF REBELS, REMEMBER?! THERE'S A PRICE ON MY HEAD, TOO!
GLAD TO HAVE MET YA! THE NAME'S KHADA!
YOU GOTTA TELL ME MIAN--
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO? THE EMPIRE SURE MUST HATE YOUR GUTS TO PUT THAT MUCH MONEY ON THE LINE.
NOTHING SPECIAL...
OH, YEAH?
I'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT WHAT A BIG SHOT YOU ARE...
BIG ENOUGH THAT THEY'LL BLOW WHOLE CITIES TO THE GROUND JUST TO FIND YOU.
WOW, MIAN'S THAT FAMOUS?! HEY, CAN I GET YOUR AUTOGRAPH?
YOU THIMBLE-BRAINED NERK!?
IF YOU WANT, WHY DON'T YOU HANG OUT WITH US AWHILE?
YOU'RE ON THE RUN, AREN'T YOU?
THANKS, BUT NO THANKS- WE'VE GOT OTHER THINGS WE'VE GOT TO DO!
DO YOU, NOW? WELL, I CAN'T MAKE YOU STAY BUT IT'S A DAMN SHAME

PRETTY WEIRD...
THIS THING'S REALLY A TANK ?!
DAMN RIGHT IT IS! WE CALL THEM ZUMBOORUK.
WELL, MAYBE NOT SO MUCH A TANK AS A SELF PROPELLED GUN
GUNK!
WE TOOK SOME ARMORED TRANSPORT BEASTS AND MOUNTED CAPTURED IMPERIAL FIELD ARTILLERY ON THEM
THEY MAY LOOK STRANGE BUT LOOKS AREN'T EVERYTHING

76.2mm MAIN GUNS FIRING SUBCALIBER ARMOR PIERCING SHELLS
WE OUTRANGE THEM TWICE OVER-- IT'S A TURKEY SHOOT
THESE UGLY SUCKERS ARE OUR SECRET WEAPON, BOY. THE IMPERIALS ARE SMOKIN' SCRAP BEFORE THEY KNOW WHAT HIT THEM
WOW PRETTY SLICK
MOAN
BY THE WAY- UH-- "WATARU" RIGHT?
JUST WHAT'S GOING ON BETWEEN YOU AND MIAN?
HUH ?!
LOVE AT FIRST SI--
GURK
WHAK
DON'T LISTEN TO HIM!
FIVE MINUTES AFTER WE MET SHE SLAPPED THESE DAMNED COLLARS ON US AND CALLED US HER PETS!
IN THAT CASE, HOW ABOUT THIS--
WHY DON'T YOU HOOK UP WITH US T!

"US"...?
YOU MEAN WITH YOU GUERRILLAS?
WHAT KIND OF PAY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?
ACTUALLY, WE USED TO HAVE A FEW MEN WITH US BUT THEY ALL GOT WASTED
BE GOOD TO HAVE GUYS AROUND AGAIN
WHADDA YA THINK, WATARU?
WE'D TEEAT YOU EIGHT
JUST ONE SECOND HERE!!
THOSE ARE MY TRAVELING COMPANIONS--
--AND I'D AFFRECIATE IT IF YOU'D KEEP YOUR GRUBBY PAWS OFF THEM, BITCH!
NOBODY ASKED YOUR OPINION!
I WAS ASKING WATARU WHAT HE THINKS
SAME DIFFERENCE-- COME ON YOU GUYS!
HUH? WE HITTIN' THE ROAD ALREADY?

NOW JUST YOU WAIT A MINUTE!
WATARU! I STILL HAVEN'T HEARD YOUR ANSWER!
DON'T TELL ME YOU LIKE BEING HER LAPDOG ?!
OH, NO!
WELL, WATARU ?
ER_GEE, IT'S SO UNEXPECTED I_EH HEH
OH, COME ON WATARU--A WIMP LIKE YOU COULD NEVER MAKE IT AS A GUERRILLA
HMPH.
YOU HEAR THAT, BOY?
SHE SURE DON'T THINK MUCH OF YOU, EH ?
I SAID KEEP YOUR PAWS OFF HIM!
OH DID YOU, NOW ?

SHREEEEE
!!
HIT THE DECK !!
WHRAM
WHRAM
WHRA
GODDAMMIT! THE REINFORCEMENTS!
N NOT AGAIN

KHADA! FIVE ENEMY TANKS ENTERING SECTOR D!
RIGHT! WE'RE MOVING OUT! PREPARE FOR ACTION!
DON'T THESE SCUM EVER GIVE UP?!
KHADA!
NEVER UNDERESTIMATE YOUR ENEMY-- THE IMPERIALS ARE PROFESSIONAL SOLDIERS.
WE CAN TAKE CARE OF OURSELVES, DEAR.
HAUL ASS! GET INTO YOUR SUITS!

KHADA ?
CAN YOU REALLY HANDLE THEM ?
HEY DON'T WORRY WE'RE GONNA KICK SERIOUS BUTT
WHEN WE GET BACK I WANT TO HEAR YOUR DECISION OKAY?
ALL RIGHT! MOVE 'EM OUT!
WORRIED ABOUT HER ?
OF COURSE! WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ?!

KRANGG
KRANGG
WE'LL ATTACK AS SOON WE CLEAR THE FOREST!
DEPLOY INTO COMBAT FORMATION!
THERE THEY ARE, GANG! TWO O'CLOCK, RANGE TWO THOUSAND!
LET THEM CLOSE TO FIFTEEN-HUNDRED THEN MAKE EVERY SHOT COUNT!

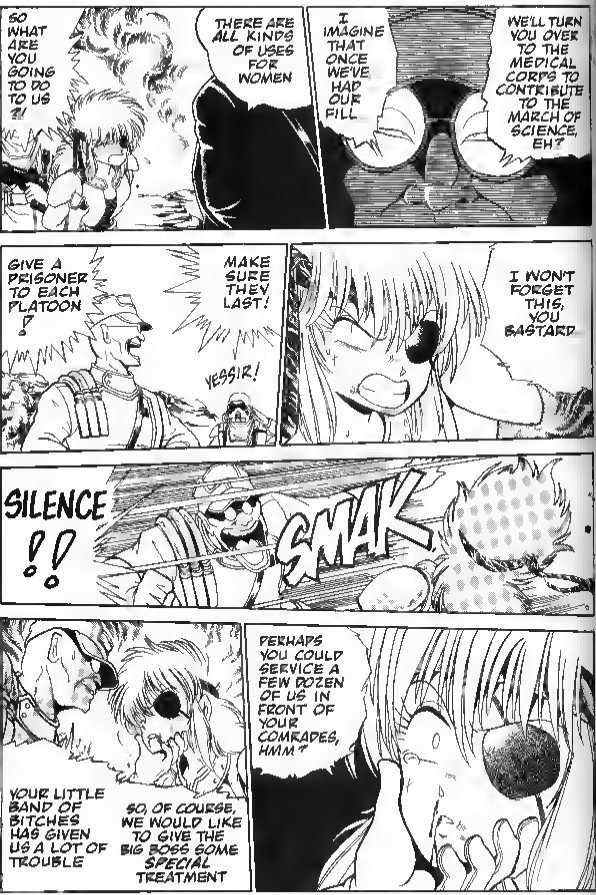
GRNNGRNNGRNN
LET'S CRUSH THESE COCKROACHES ONCE AND FOR ALL!!
FIRE!!
BKOOM
SPANG
BKOOM
GRANGG

WHAT THE HELL?! THEY'RE JUST BOUNCING OFF!
KHADA! THOSE AREN'T REGULAR MARK I TANKS!
DAMN! IT'S THE MARK II, WITH THAT EXTRA ARMOR!
BKAM
WHOOM
KHADA, WE'VE GOT SERIOUS PROBLEMS. THEY'VE UPGRADED THEIR CANNONS, TOO!
DON'T WIMP OUT! THE BATTLE'S JUST BEGUN!

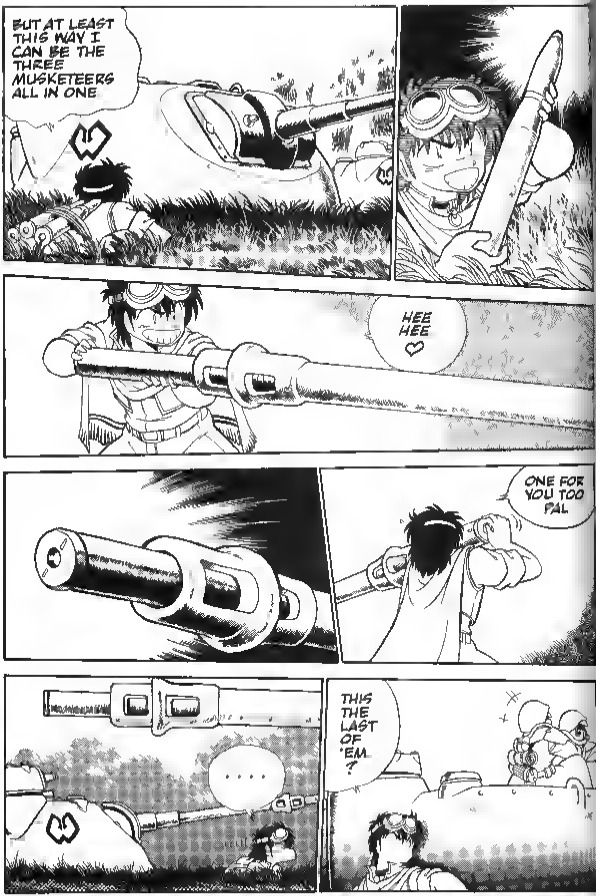
SHIT! THEY'RE CHARGING RIGHT AT US!
DON'T RUN! DRAW THEM IN AND HIT THEM CLOSE!
BKOOM
SPANG
SON OF A BITCH!!

ALL RIGHT-- WE CAN'T TAKE THEM HEAD ON! GLIMMA, CIRCLE TO THE LEFT!
SHARA, YOU TAKE THE RIGHT FLANK-- SET UP FOR A PINCERS!
HMM SOUNDS PRETTY BAD OUT THERE, HUH?
YEAH...
MIAN! YOU'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!
NOT ME, NO WAY
SHE THINKS SHE'S SUCH HOT SHIT--
--LET HER HANDLE IT BY HERSELF!
OH, COME ON! YOU COULD JUST WHACK 'EM WITH YOUR SWORD LIKE YOU DID BEFORE
SURE I WILL-- NOT!
BABO?!
I DON'T DO ANYTHING THAT WON'T TURN A PROFIT
BEEP BEEP
DIDN'T THINK SO

KRAKK
WHDD
HRRK
HAW HAW!
KHADA ?
HEH HEH, HEH ENJOYING YOURSELF, KHADA ?


SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO US?!
THERE ARE ALL KINDS OF USES FOR WOMEN
I IMAGINE THAT ONCE WE'VE HAD OUR FILL
WE'LL TURN YOU OVER TO THE MEDICAL CORPS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MARCH OF SCIENCE, EH?
GIVE A PRISONER TO EACH PLATOON!?
MAKE SURE THEY LAST!
YESSIR!
I WON'T FORGET THIS, YOU BASTARD
SILENCE!!
SMAK
YOUR LITTLE BAND OF BITCHES HAS GIVEN US A LOT OF TROUBLE
SO, OF COURSE, WE WOULD LIKE TO GIVE THE BIG BOSS SOME SPECIAL TREATMENT
PERHAPS YOU COULD SERVICE A FEW DOZEN OF US IN FRONT OF YOUR COMRADES, HMM?

EH HEH
G-GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!
KOSH
KOSH
URFF... THESE DAMN SHELLS ARE HEAVY...
JEEZ... HOW'D I WIND UP WITH SO MANY SELFISH JERKS FOR MY FRIENDS?


BUT AT LEAST THIS WAY I CAN BE THE THREE MUSKETEERS ALL IN ONE
HEE HEE
ONE FOR YOU TOO PAL
....
THIS THE LAST OF 'EM ?

NAIL 'ER, GUYS!
LET'S SEE... I THINK THIS--
KCHA
UWAAH!
BKAM!
WHKOOM
SHEE!
!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
ARE WE UNDER ATTACK?!!

RIGHT ON!!
HEY!! WHO THE HELL ARE YOU!!
!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
GUERRILLAS HAVE CAPTURED TANK THREE! STOP THEM!!
GRNNGRNNGRNN
YEEOW! RUN FOR IT!!
FIRE!!
FKAMM

WHKROOM
AAH!! TAKE THAT YOU IMPERIAL BASTARDS!
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! FIRE! THE GUERRILLAS ARE ONBOARD!
WHKOOM
THEY'VE BLOWN UP ALL THE TANKS!
IT'S A GUERRILLA ATTACK! RETREAT! RETREAT!!

KHADA!
WATARU!
WHKROOM
VERRR
OOPS. THERE WAS ANOTHER ONE IN THE WOODS
CHOK

?
?
VICTORY IN BATTLE GOES TO THE LAST SURVIVOR.
DON'T GET CARELESS WATAZU
MIAN ?
YOU DO CAUSE A LOT OF TROUBLE DON'T YOU...?

KHADA! YOU OKAY?!
YEAH
DON'T WORRY
I'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT WORSE
N-NO KIDDING
WE'VE LOST EVERYTHING
AND SO MANY OF MY COMRADES DEAD
WE'LL HAVE TO START OVER FROM SQUARE ONE
BUT HEY, WATARU! YOU WERE DAMN GOOD!
NO SHIT! A REAL MAN?
UH GEE I JUST
HMPH!
CMON JOIN US HONEY! YOU'RE A REAL HERO!

YEAH, WELL, MAYBE I WILL. THIS HERO BUSINESS SUITS ME FINE! THAT, AND ALL THESE BABES...!
I GOT TO ADMIT IT, I READ YOU WRONG.
HUH?
OH, NOTHING. IT'S JUST THAT WHEN I FIRST MET YOU, I THOUGHT...
THOUGHT WHAT?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST A GUY I COULD TRUST WITH THE COOKING, WASHING, AND HOUSECLEANING!
W-WWHAAAT?!
COME ON ALREADY, MIAN! TELL ME!
WHAT'S THE KID SO UPSET ABOUT?
HE MISSED HIS CHANCE TO BE A BIG REBEL HERO; THAT'S ALL!
A HERO? WATARU? YOU'RE PUTTING ME ON

IN AN AMAZON GUERRILLA BAND LIKE THAT, THE WOMEN FIGHT WHILE THE MEN STAY HOME AND KEEP HOUSE
A GUY WHO CAN COOK AND DO THE LAUNDRY IS A REAL HERO!
WHAT A SHAME MAN* THE HERO WHO WASN'T
AW GET STUFFED!!
SO MAYBE NOW YOU'VE LEARNED NOT TO ACCEPT ANY CASUAL INVITATIONS?
JUST SHUT UP AND LEAVE ME ALONE!
SURE! JUST MAKE SURE YOU REMEMBER TO DO MY COOKING, CLEANING, AND LAUNDRY!
ALL RIGHT! I'LL DO IT, ALREADY! SHEESH!

Babo-Land!
I'M STILL THE HERO OF THIS CRUMMY COMIC!

LET'S SEE NOW THE CLOSEST TOWN FROM HERE IS
RIGHT HERE-- AKOGIVILLE
AKOGIVILLE...? YOU DON'T MEAN--
YEP! BABO'S HOMETOWN.
OH NO!
NO KIDDING? BABO'S HOME?
THAT SHOULD BE INTERESTING!?
NO! NO WAY! ABSOLUTELY NOT!!
HUH?
WHY NOT?

EVEN YOU MUST GET HOMESICK SOMETIMES...
I SAID NO AND I MEAN NO, NO. NO!!
NO ONE WANTS TO VISIT THAT PLACE!!
HOW ABOUT YOU WATARU?
WELL GEE I'VE NEVER SEEN BABO'S HOME BEFORE...
AND YOU WON'T NOW! WE'RE NOT GOING!
IF YOU ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO GO, GO BY YOURSELVES?
ENOUGH?
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN WHO OWNS YOU?!
IF I WANT TO GO TO AKOGI, YOU'LL COME LIKE YOU'RE TOLD!
YOU MAKING MONEY?!

AKOGIVILLE! MONEY CAPITAL OF THE WORLD!!
$
MAKING MONEY?
YOU MAKING MONEY?
YOU MAKING MONEY?
YOU MAKING MONEY?
YOU MAKING MONEY?

CRAB
15 O.D.
GITCHER RED HOTS!
CHEAP!
TASTY!
COOK WANTED
HIRING NOW!

IT'S HIS HOMETOWN, ALL RIGHT
HMM EVEN GRUFFBIER THAN I EXPECTED
OCTO
WHAT A RACKET ?
GO TEAM GO!

YOU MAKING MONEY ?!
YOU'RE THE STUPIDEST LOOKING ROBOT I'VE EVER SEEN !
HEH CAN'T PLEASE EVERYONE!

EKODA
YOU MAKING MONEY?
MAKING MONEY?
ROLL UP, ROLL UP! BUY, BUY, BUY!
MAKING MONEY?
....
....
I THINK I FEEL SICK...
GEE, THAT'S TOO BAD THESE IKOGI OCTOPUS DUMPLINGS ARE GREAT!
BIG TOO!

YAAAH!!
SNEAK SNEAK
WHAT'S WITH THIS "SNEAK SNEAK" BUSINESS?!
SSSH! QUIET! HUSH!!
HEY OVER THERE! ISN'T THAT BABO?!
NO KIDDING! IT IS HIM!
HEY BAAABO?
AOKI-YA
AIEE!
HEY, WE HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN YEARS!! WHEN DID YOU HIT TOWN?!
BMB BMB
HEY, NOT VERY FRIENDLY PAL! COMING BACK WITHOUT LETTIN' US KNOW!!
UH, YEAH... EE I...
M-M-MAKING... MONEY?
MAKIN' MONEY!!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
BEATS ME I THINK IT'S SOME KIND OF GREETING
SO...AH... HOW'S BUSINESS THESE DAYS?
BAD. DEAD. BELLY UP!

HELGEBARD AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF POKERS STARTED SHOOTING IT UP NEARBY!
JUST SINCE I'D LIKE TO HAVE A CK LEAVE
NO KIDDIN'!
EVER SINCE, WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY CUSTOMERS FROM OUT OF TOWN SALES ARE IN THE TOILET!
I EVEN JUMPED OUTTA MY OFFICE WINDOW!
BUT ON THE OTHER HAND THE TIGERS WON THE PENNANT WHILE YOU WERE GONE FIRST TIME IN FIFTY YEARS!
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU, BABO?
BET YOU BEEN RAKING IN, MONEYBAGS
UH, I ER
YEAH! YEAH!, YOU BET!!
THAT'S OUR BABO-- NOBODY OUTPRICES YOU!
GREAT! LET'S TAKE HIM TO THE BIG BOSS!!
YAAAH!! WAIT! STOP! DON T!!
?
UH, OH
ROCK BOTTOM PRICES!! BIG SALE !!
WAAAH!!
NOW HOW MUCH WOULD YOU PAY ?!

WHAT THE HELL?!! YOU CALL THESE SALES?!!
WHOK
YOU COME BACK FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS, I FIGURE YOU'VE BEEN MAKING MONEY!!
AND WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?! EH?!
BALANCE OUTSTANDING SIXTY-THREE D.D.!! AND NOT A CENT OF PROFIT IN WEEKS!!
NET BALANCE
74
72
63
YOU CAN'T EVEN USE AN ATM CARD FOR LESS THAN A HUNDRED DD!!

NO AKOGI WOETH HIS BANK ACCOUNT COULD POSSIBLY DO THIS BADLY!
NO ONE GETS A STORE IN AKOGIVILLE IF THEY CAN'T MAKE MONEY ON THE ROAD!
WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN DOING THESE THREE YEARS?!!
B-BUT BOSS! MY PROFITS WENT UP IN SMOKE WHEN EKOBA GOT BOMBED!
AND WORSE THAN THAT I GOT MIXED UP WITH THIS WEIRD EKOAD SHE'S BAD FOR BUSINESS SHE--
WHAT?!! A WOMAN?!! YOU'VE BEEN CHASING WOMEN INSTEAD OF MAKING MONEY?!!
NO! WE'RE JUST GOOD FRIENDS D
DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THE AKOGI CREED, BABO?!
OH NO! BOSS! NEVER! NO WAY!
"A WORLD OF THE MONEYMAKERS, FOR THE MONEYMAKERS, MAKING MONEY FOR MONEYMAKERS!!"
"YOU'RE A CUSTOMER HE'S A CUSTOMER MONEY MAKES THE WORLD GO AROUND! THE CUSTOMER IS GOD!"

AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT! DON'T YOU FORGET IT!!
FWAP FWAP FWAP
$ $ $ $ $
BABO
HOW DARE YOU COME BACK HERE PENNILESS!
YOU GOT A LOT OF NERVE?
AN AKOGI WHO CAN'T MAKE MONEY DOESN'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIVE!
AREN'T YOU ASHAMED?!
YOU'RE A LOSER!
IDIOT! SCUM! YOU MONEY LOSER!
TIE HIM UP AND HEAVE HIM INTO THE BAY!!
HELP!
NOOO!!
JEEZ THEY MADE US BUY ALL THIS JUNK!
MAN WE DON'T HAVE A PENNY LEFT
HM?

HEY WATARU! DOESN'T THAT LUMP OF GARBAGE LOOK FAMILIAR?
HUH?
HEY! THAT'S-- THAT'S BABO!
YOU'RE KIDDING!! THEY WRAPPED YOU UP AND THREW YOU IN JUST BECAUSE YOUR SALES WERE BAD?!
WHAT A BUNCH OF BASTARDS!
AT LEAST THEY DIDN'T TIE ROCKS ONTO ME THIS TIME!
AN AKOGI'S LIFE IS NOT A HAPPY ONE! DAY AFTER DAY, WE BATTLE TO THE DEATH, FIGHTING TO IMPROVE OUR PROFIT MARGINS!!
LET UP JUST A LITTLE, EVEN FOR A DAY, AND YOU'RE CRUSHED LIKE A BUG.
POOR LITTLE DWEEB.
PITY FROM YOU I DON'T NEED!

ANYWAY WE BETTER GET OUT OF HERE
WAAAH! WAIT A MINUTE!?
IF I LEAVE LIKE THIS, I'LL BE BRANDED A LOSER FOR LIFE!
EEP! S SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!
BUSINESS BOY! MAKING MONEY!!
WE GET DOWN TO BUSINESS TODAY, AND START RAKING IT IN! NO MATTER WHAT!!
LET'S GO
RIGHTO
DARN IT ALL, WATARU! AT LEAST HEAR ME OUT!
OH, SURE-- SELL WHAT TO WHO, HUH?!
YOU COULDN'T EVEN MAKE A NICKEL OFF OTHER AKOGIS!!
EH HEH HEH
WAIT... I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING! NOT THE TWO ARMIES--!
BINGO!!
DAMN IT ALL!

HUH ?!
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT ?!
TASTY ? CHEAP !
OCTOPUS DUMPLINGS

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
STEP RIGHT UP!!
HEY, YOU! THIS AIN'T SOME GODDAMN CARNIVAL! PACK UP AND MOVE ON!
AWW, HAVE A HEART, CAPTAIN! CARNIVALS OF WARS, THEY BOTH BRING OUT THE CROWDS, RIGHT?
HEY, WHAT IS THAT STUFF? NOT THOSE WORLD FAMOUS AKOGI OCTO-DUMPLINGS...?
SURE ARE, CAP! 2.50 DD THE TEN-PACK!
FOR YOU, I MAKE SUCH A DEAL!
YOU'RE SELLING THEM PRETTY DAMN CHEAP FOR AN AKOGI! ARE THEY ANY GOOD?
GOOD? GOOD? "CHEAP AND YUMMY," THE AKOGI MOTTO!!
GO AHEAD-- TRY A SAMPLE
WHAT TH--? THOSE ARE WHOLE TENTACLES
NOT LIKE THOSE CRAPPY EKODA DUMPLINGS, EH?
LEMME SEE...
HEY! THESE THINGS ARE GREAT!! GIMME A WHOLE PACK!
CAPTAIN, SIR! LET US BUY SOME, TOO!

GOD, WE'VE BEEN ON MREs WAYYVY TOO LONG.
UMPLINGS
STILL, WHO BUT AN AKOGI WOULD THINK OF SETTING UP SHOP AT THE FRONT?
URG!
ACK!
WH--WHAT'S IN THESE THINGS?!
OH, GOD, MY STOMACH!
THAT LITTLE SKUNK! HE STUFFED THEM WITH LAXATIVES!
THAT AKOGI BASTARD! HE'S ALREADY GONE!!
AH AH AHH! I CAN'T HOLD IT ANY LONGER!
CAPTAIN! WHAT'S THAT OVER THERE?!
TOILET

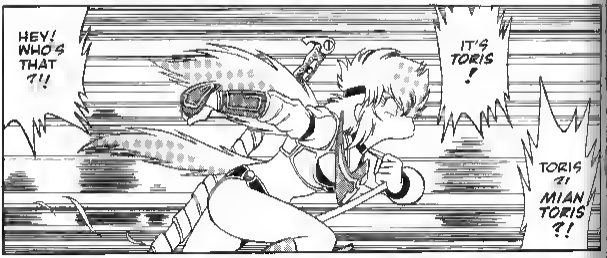
PAY TOILET
500 D.D. Each
WHAT! YOU HAVE TO PAY TO TAKE A CRAP?!
500 DD?! IT'S THAT STINKIN' AKOGI'S WORK!
SCREW 'IM! JUST BREAK DOWN THE DOOR!
STOP, YOU FOOLS! WHAT IF YOU BREAK IT AND IT DOESN'T WORK?!
URG!
SIR! MAYBE, MAYBE WE SHOULD USE THE WOODS?
SILENCE, YOU FOOL! DON'T YOU REMEMBER MILITARY CODE SECTION 8, PARAGRAPH 132?! "ALL HELGEBARD SOLDIERS ARE REQUIRED TO RELIEVE THEMSELVES IN A SANITARY FACILITY"!
BUT SIR, WE HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO SET UP A LATRINE!
RULES ARE RULES!!
VERY WELL THEN! WE'LL PAY THE TOILET EXPENSES OUT OF DIVISION FUNDS
YAHOO!

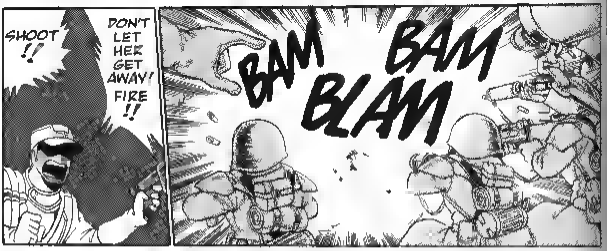
JUST ONCE FER SOLDIER!
HURRY HURRY UP!
YAIEE!
OOPS !!
HEH HEH IT'S GOING LIKE CLOCKWORK
LIKE THEY SAY--WHAT GOES IN MUST COME OUT!
NOW I JUST HOPE WATARU'S DOING HIS PART
OINK OINK OINK!
DES TINGS ARE GREAT !!
I AIN'T NEVER TASTED ANYTING LIKE DIS BEFORE! S'GREAT!
YUM!
HERE Y GO!
HEY, KID, YOU AIN'T NO AKOGI
YEAH, YEAH JUST A PART-TIME JOB!
ULK!

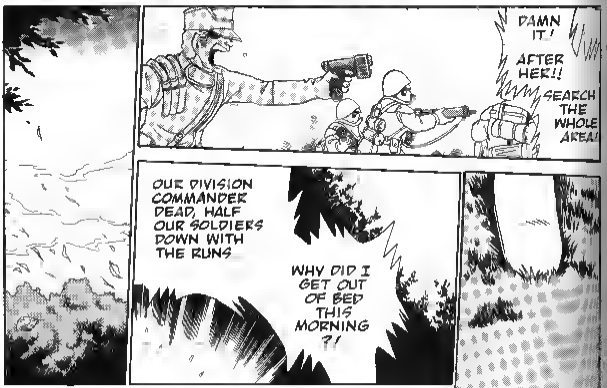
NYAHAHA! MAKING MONEY?! DAMN STRAIGHT I'M MAKING MONEY!!
THOSE REPUBLIC POKERS ARE SUCH GLUTTONS. THE WHOLE DAMN REGIMENT'S GOT THE RUNS!
SHOVELED 'EM IN, EH?! NOW THEY'RE SORRY!
THERE'S ENOUGH HERE TO SAVE MY HONOR AND THEN SOME
DON'T FORGET I HELPED YOU OUT--I WANT MY LOAN BACK!
I KNOW, I KNOW, O' HONORED PARTNER !!
HEY, WHERE'S MIAN?
I THOUGHT SHE WAS WITH YOU NO?
WHERE'D SHE GET TO THIS TIME, THAT DIMBO?!

I SAID I DONT KNOW!!
LOW-RANKING OFFICERS LIKE US HAVE NEVER EVEN SET EYES ON HER MAJESTY!
THEN LET ME CHANGE THE QUESTION.
WHAT DOES SHION PLAN TO DO WITH ME ONCE SHE CAPTURES ME?
SHE... SHE'LL--
WHDD
!!
HYAAH!

!!
SIR ?!
WHA--
CHOK
WHSSHH
AAH!


HEY! WHO'S THAT ?!
IT'S TORIS !
TORIS ?! MIAN TORIS ?!


SHOOT !!
DON'T LET HER GET AWAY! FIRE !!
BAM BAM BLAM


DAMN IT!
AFTER HER!!
SEARCH THE WHOLE AREA!
OUR DIVISION COMMANDER DEAD, HALF OUR SOLDIERS DOWN WITH THE RUNS
WHY DID I GET OUT OF BED THIS MORNING ?!

HI, BOYS !!
MIAN!
WHERE DID YOU GET TO ?!
OH, OUT AND ABOUT
GEE... YOU'RE BLEEDING.
BLEEDING? NAW, I JUST GOT SPLASHED.
"SPLASHED"..? YOU HAVEN'T BEEN A BAD GIRL AGAIN, HAVE YOU?
WHO, ME ?
SO LIKE, HEY! HOW'S BUSINESS, GUYS?
NO! GET BACK! IT'S MINE! ALL MINE!!
RELAX, DUMMY I WON'T TAKE IT FROM YOU.
BUT I BET THE HELGEBARDS AND THOSE REPUBLIC GUYS ARE STEAMING MAD.
MAD ISN'T THE WORD! THEY DUMP IN THEIR PANTS, THEY LOSE THEIR MONEY--THEY'RE INSANE WITH RAGE! HEE, HEE...

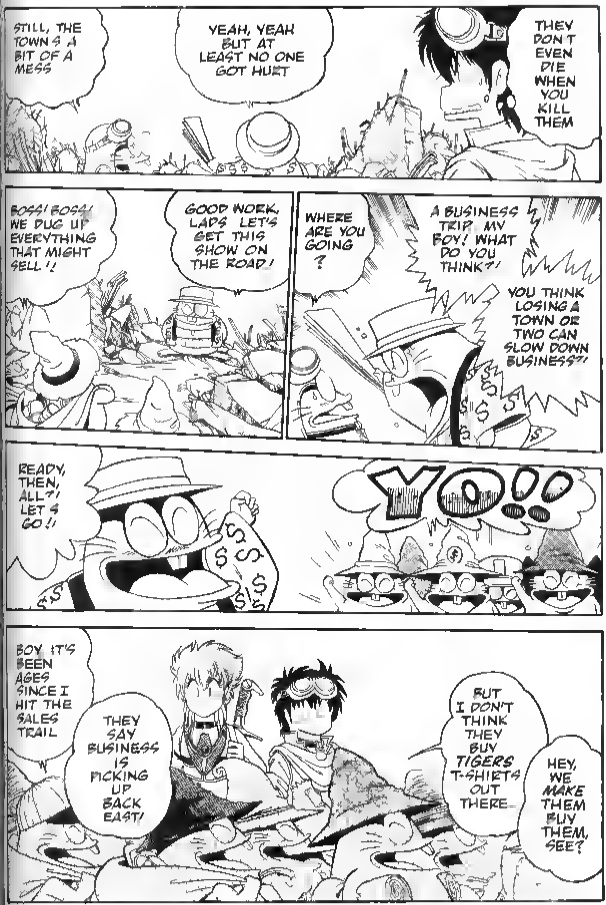
!!!
Y'KNOW... THEY MIGHT EVEN--
ATTACK AKOGIVILLE IN REVENGE!
YOU GOT IT!
DON'T BE SO CALLOUS!!
WHOK
THIS IS TERRIBLE! TERRIBLE!!
JEEZ-- DON'T PITCH A FIT.
OH, NO! ROCKETS!
KWHOOOOSSH!
KWHOOOOSSH!
WHO'S GOING TO MISS THAT SCABBY LITTLE TOWN?
I'M GONNA MISS IT!
HEY, WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
INTEREST RATES...?

KWRAMM
YAAAH!

KWHOOSH!
KWHOOSH KWHOOSH
MONEY CAPITAL OF THE WORLD?! HAH! CESSPOOL OF THE WORLD, MORE LIKE IT!
DEATH TO THE CAPITALISTS!! FREE THE PEOPLE!!
KA-BOOM!!!

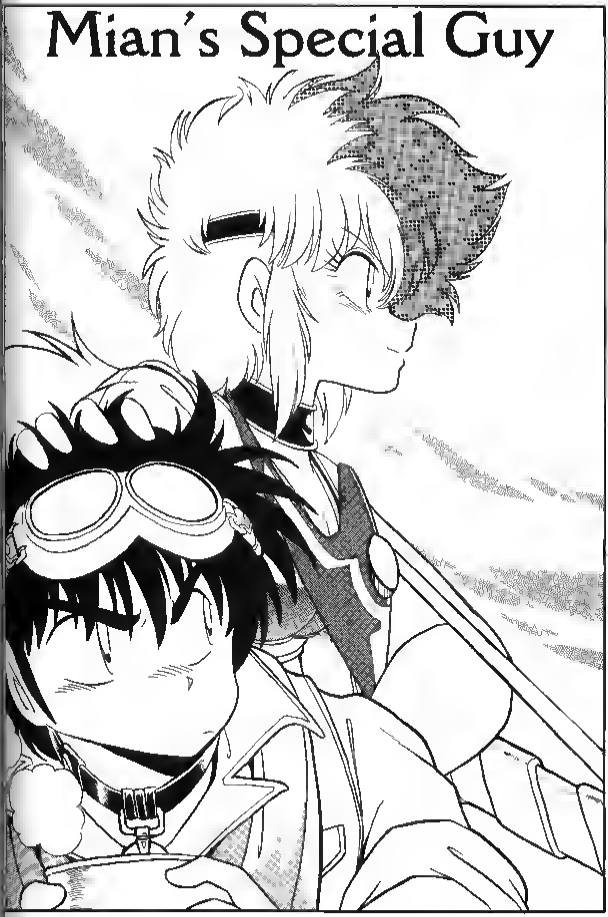
SUCH WAS THE DECLINE AND FALL OF THE AKOGI EMPIRE
AAGG...
WH-WH-WHAT?
CEASE FIRE!!
BEHOLD! EVIL PERISHES! GOOD PREVAILS!
OH, MAAN...

HEY BOSS! YOU SURVIVED, HUH?!
WHO'S THAT? BABO, IS THAT YOU?
BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER!
LOOK AT HOW MUCH I MADE!
WHAT ARE YOU GRINNING FOR, YOU BEAN BRAIN?!
AKOGIVILLES BEEN BLOWN TO BITS!
FWAK
$-SORRY, BOSS
BEEN MAKING MONEY HAVE YOU? HOW MUCH?
!!
YOU MADE THIS MUCH IN ONE DAY?!
SURE DID BOSS! NOT A BAD TAKE HUH?!
NYAHAHAHA! I KNEW YOU HAD IT IN YOU, MY BOY! I NEVER MISS A CALL!!
ALL'S FORGIVEN, LAD! GOOD WORK!!
AW, IT WAS NOTHING.


STILL, THE TOWN'S A BIT OF A MESS
YEAH, YEAH BUT AT LEAST NO ONE GOT HURT
THEY DON'T EVEN DIE WHEN YOU KILL THEM
BOSS! BOSS! WE DUG UP EVERYTHING THAT MIGHT SELL!
GOOD WORK, LADS! LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
A BUSINESS TRIP, MY BOY! WHAT DO YOU THINK?!
YOU THINK LOSING A TOWN OR TWO CAN SLOW DOWN BUSINESS?!
READY, THEN, ALL?! LET'S GO!!
YO!!
BOY, IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I HIT THE SALES TRAIL
THEY SAY BUSINESS IS PICKING UP BACK EAST!
BUT I DON'T THINK THEY BUY TIGERS T-SHIRTS OUT THERE
HEY, WE MAKE THEM BUY THEM, SEE?

IT'S NOT MY FAULT. WHATEVER TROUBLE THEY CAUSE WHILE MAKING MONEY, IT'S NOT MY FAULT.
THEY'RE MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE IMPERIAL ARMY...
AKOGI BUSINESSMEN NEVER SAY DIE!!

Mian's Special Guy



THREE CHEESEBURGERS TO GO, SIR!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!
THANK YOU! COME AGAIN!
THAT'S HIM--NO DOUBT ABOUT IT
HUH. LOOKS LIKE A REAL IDIOT
WELL, LET'S GET IT OVER WITH

Yum♡
?
WRAK
ORNGK!
JEEZ, WATARU... WHAT THE HELL'S TAKING YOU SO LONG?!

CAN'T HE EVEN HANDLE BUYING A FEW HAMBURGERS?
BABO! GO SEE WHAT HE'S UP TO, OKAY?
BABO!
KEEP YER SHORTS ON! I'M RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A DEAL HERE!
SO, LIKE I WAS SAYING, GRANDMA--WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO WHEN YOU GET OLD, EH? ASK YOUR WORTHLESS KIDS FOR HELP?
THE NUMBERS SAY IT ALL.
GOLD! THAT'S THE TICKET! LOVELY GOLD NEVER DROPS IN VALUE...BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, YOU GOT DOUBLE, TRIPLE YOUR INVESTMENT!
IT'S A LOT BETTER THAN GIVING YOU CASH TO A BANK, LET ME TELL YOU!
JUST SIGN HERE, IT'S YOURS!
IF IT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, IT IS, SONNY
BAD BABO! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE INTO BUNCO, TOO.
HEE YEE HEE
ALL MY DOUGH'S IN IBM, ANYWAY!
HEE YEE HEE
HMPH--THE LITTLE OLD LADY FROM HELL!
HECK, ALL IT TAKES IS A BIG MOUTH I'M HOOKED!

SHREEEE

WATARU...?!
SHREEOOWW
WHERE'S HE THINK HE'S GOING? THERE'S A BURGER JOINT JUST AROUND THE CORNER...
.....
SHION, YOU TRICKSTER! WHAT ARE YOU UP TO NOW?!
VRNNVRNNVRNN

SEE SUKE LOOKS DIFFERENT FROM LAST TIME!
LET GO OF ME!! WHADDA YA THINK YOU'RE DOING, YOU JERKS!
GOD DAMMIT! WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO TO ME! GET YOUR MITTS OFF--!!
GASP!

SO GLAD YOU COULD COME. NORMALLY, I WOULD HAVE ENTERTAINED YOU IN MY PALACE, BUT THESE ARE TROUBLED TIMES
SO, PLEASE ACCEPT MY APOLOGIES FOR THESE CRAMPED AND UNWORTHY SURROUNDINGS.
I'M QUITE PLEASED WE COULD MEET AGAIN, WATARU... THAT WAS YOUR NAME, YES?
YOU SEEM TO BE IN EXCELLENT HEALTH, MM?
YOU... YOU'RE THE GIRL WHO WAS FIGHTING WITH MIAN THAT TIME...
GODDAMMIT! WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, DRAGGING ME HERE?!

I KNOW!! YOU'RE TRYING TO DECOY MIAN INTO COMING HERE TO SAVE ME!
WHAT A ROTTEN TRICK!!
INSOLENT CUR! HOLD YOUR TONGUE!
AW, GET STUFFED CEMENT HEAD!
FOOL! DON'T YOU REALIZE WHO YOU'RE SPEAKING TO?
THIS IS HER EXALTED MAJESTY, PRINCESS SHION, RULER OF THE GREAT HELGEBARD EMPIRE!
HUH?
RELEASE THE BOY AND YOU MAY LEAVE...
BUT, YOUR HIGHNESS--

I WISH TO SPEAK WITH THE BOY ALONE! YOU ARE DISMISSED!!
YES, MAJESTY
YOU TWO MAY LEAVE AS WELL
N-RR?
KSHANG
KANG
UH...
GEE
WELL, LIKE ER...
YOU AHH. WANT ME FOR SOMETHING?
I JUST WANT TO HAVE A LITTLE CHAT
COME-- LET US DISCUSS THINGS OVER DINNER.

HELP YOURSELF..
LET US CELEBRATE OUR REUNION-- PLEASE, DON'T HOLD BACK
YOU SAID IT, BABE! COULDN'T HOLD ME BACK IF YOU TRIED!
I WAS SO HUNGRY MY BIG GUTS WERE EATING MY LITTLE GUTS!
YUMM! MAN, THIS STUFF'S GREAT! HEY, DO YOU EMPRESSES GET TO CHOW DOWN LIKE THIS EVERY DAY?!
BASO OUGHTTA BE HERE?
YAHOO!! LOOKIT ALL THE GRUB!!
MNCH
GLUP
SCARF
BELCH
MNCH

UH EXCUSE ME BUT CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
WHAT IS IT?
WHAT ARE YOU ALWAYS CHASING MIAN FOR?
MUCH GULP
WHAT IS IT BETWEEN YOU GUYS, ANYWAY?
SLURRRP
EVEN THAT FIGHT YOU HAD THAT WASN'T ANY COINCIDENCE
HMM HOW SHALL I PUT IT?
MIAN AND I YOU COULD SAY THAT WE'RE ONE BODY, ONE MIND
HUH?
WHAZZAT?
ONE BODY, ONE MIND AND AT THE SAME TIME, IRRECONCILABLE ENEMIES.
I DON'T GET IT
NEVER COULD FIGURE ALL THAT HIGHFALUTIN' MUMBO-JUMBO.

WATARU
THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE YOU TO SHOW ME THROUGH ACTION.
EH?
DEPENDING ON YOUR ANSWER, YOU COULD EITHER BECOME EMPEROR--NOT TO MENTION MY HUSBAND
...OR, ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU COULD PUT ON A LITTLE WEIGHT--IN IMPERIAL LEAD BULLETS
"ACTION"? WHADDAYA MEAN?
KILL MIAN FOR ME!

NOW I SEE... NEVER GUESSED THERE WAS A FRONT-LINE BASE SO NEAR.
COME ON, MIAN--YOU REALLY MEAN TO RESCUE WATARU?
THAT'S A STUPID QUESTION! WHY'D YOU THINK WE CAME HERE?
BUT IF WE BLOW A WHOLE BUSINESS DAY JUST GETTING WATARU BACK, I'M GONNA TAKE SOME SERIOUS LOSSES.
REALLY, THAT JERK'S NOT EVEN DECENT TAX LOSS.
BEEP BEEP
GOOD LORD! AND YOU CALL YOURSELVES PARTNERS?!
DAMN STRAIGHT! I'VE GOT A BIG LIFE INSURANCE POLICY ON HIM!
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU THINK--WATARU'S VERY IMPORTANT TO ME!
OH, I...GEE. WHEN DID YOU TWO, UHH, "GET TOGETHER"...?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN, IDIOT!

KEEP THAT BIG YAP OF YOURS SHUT, AND FOLLOW ME!
AHA! YOU GUYS'VE BEEN FOOLIN' ME! NO MORE!
KRAK
NOW SHUT UP AND COME ON! HURRY!
I CAN'T HANDLE HER...
SKRASHHHH
THAT'S THE STUPIDEST THING I EVER HEARD! YOU KNOW I CAN'T DO THAT!!
YOU REFUSE?
OF COURSE I DO!
ME EMPEROR? WHAT A CROCK!

IN THAT CASE, CONTINUE YOUR TRAVELS... WITH YOUR DEAR MIAN
DO THAT, WATARU-- AND IN TIME, YOU WILL COME TO AGREE WITH ME
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?!
DO YOU KNOW WHERE SHE'S GOING?!
I DO INDEED...
AND I KNOW WHAT SHE'S GOING TO DO THERE
HUH ?
EVEN IF I TRIED TO EXPLAIN, I DOUBT YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND.
GEE, SO SORRY I WAS BORN! I KNOW, I'M JUST AN IDIOT.
BUT I CAN TELL YOU THIS MUCH, YOUNG MAN--
--IF SHE IS ALLOWED TO CONTINUE, THEN YOU, ME, EVEN THE EMPIRE...
NO, MORE THAN JUST THE EMPIRE/ THIS ENTIRE PLANET WILL FACE CERTAIN AND UTTER DESTRUCTION!

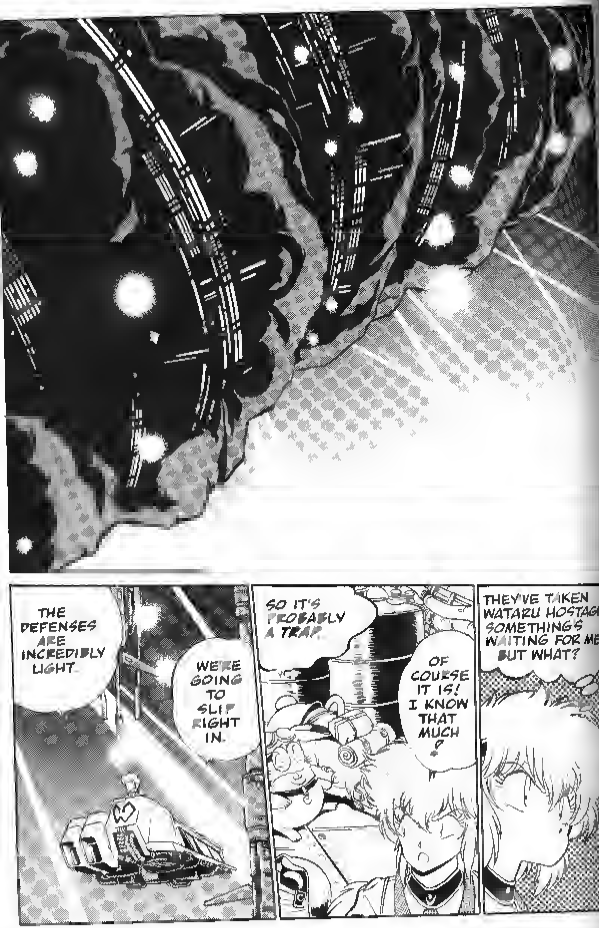
DESTRUCTION?
MIAN'S GOING TO DESTROY THE WORLD?
BWAHAHAHAHAHAH!!
WHAT DO YOU FIND SO AMUSING?
OH, COME ON! DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. SURE, MIAN'S STRONG, BUT SHE'S JUST HUMAN.
SINCE WHEN CAN WAVING A SWORD AROUND BLOW UP A WHOLE PLANET?!
WELL, I CAN HARDLY COMMAND YOU TO BELIEVE ME
AND NEITHER HAVE I ANY INTENTION OF FORCING YOU TO KILL MIAN.
SO CONTINUE YOUR TRAVELS WITH THE GIRL AND ONCE YOU LEARN THE PURPOSE OF YOUR JOURNEY...

YOU CAN DECIDE FOR YOURSELF TO PUT HER TO DEATH !?
THINK ABOUT IT, MM?
UH...
YEAH, SURE...
WHY THE HELL ARE YOU ASKING ME, ANYWAY ?!
WHY DON'T YOU DO IT YOURSELF ?!

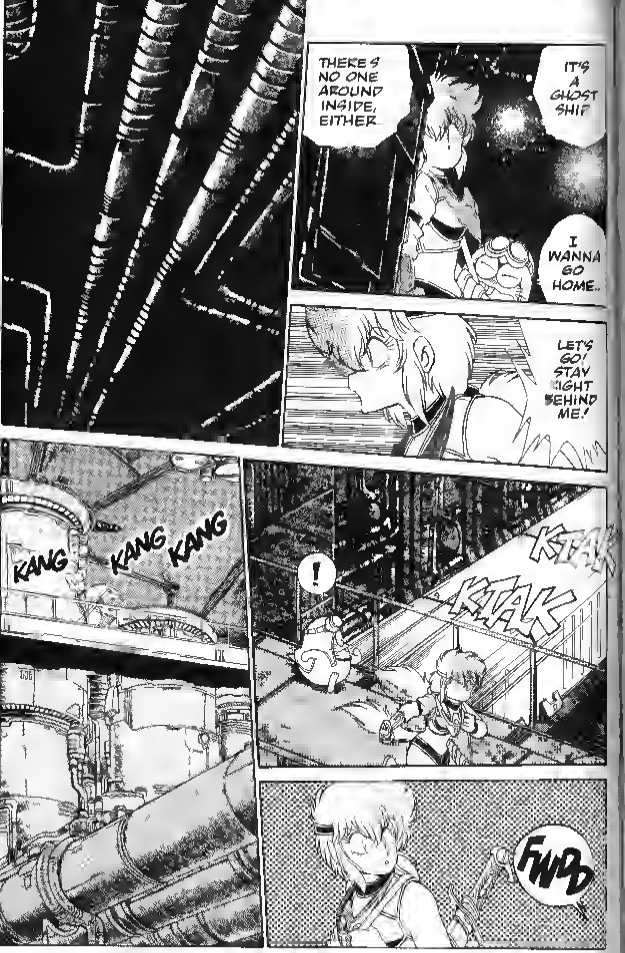
YOU'RE THE DAMNED EMPRESS, AREN'T YOU?
HELL, YOU'VE GOT A WHOLE ARMY AND YOU'RE JUST AS STRONG AS SHE IS! I SAW YOU FIGHT!
YES, YOU ARE RIGHT MIAN AND I ARE EQUALLY STRONG EXACT EQUALS, WATARU.
WE CANNOT BE DEFEATED, NEITHER CAN WE DEFEAT THAT IS WHY WE NEED THE STRENGTH OF OTHERS
AS FOR THAT ARMY OF MINE... GIVEN THEIR EQUIPMENT, I DOUBT THEY COULD SO MUCH AS SCRATCH HER!
BUT YOU! YOU, WATARU, CAN DEFEAT HER!
OH RIGHT! HOW THE HELL CAN I DO THAT?! SOMEONE TOO TOUGH FOR YOU AND YOUR ARMY BOTH?!

WHAT'S THIS THING ?
DON'T ASK JUST USE IT
ALL YOU DO IS SUBSTITUTE IT FOR THE CRYSTAL ON MIAN'S BREASTPLATE
THE CRYSTAL ON HER BREASTPLATE ?
YOU MEAN THAT THING ?
DO THAT, AND IT WILL ALL BE OVER.
I DON'T NEED THIS PIECE OF JUNK!
'CAUSE I'M NOT GOING TO DO IT, SEE ?!
JUST THINK OF IT AS A PRESENT, WATARU
IF YOU DON'T WANT IT, THROW IT AWAY
AW HELL. I'M NOT USING IT, UNDERSTAND ?
BUT IT'S SORTA PRETTY I BET BARO CAN MAKE SOME MONEY OFF IT.

AS YOU WISH AND NOW, WE SHOULD GET READY. MIAN WILL BE HERE FOR YOU ANY MINUTE
MIAN? COME FOR ME? NO WAY--NOT HER!
AH, BUT SHE WILL YOU'RE VERY IMPORTANT TO HER, WATARU
JEEZ! QUIT PICKING ON ME, WOULD YA?!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT BETWEEN US.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT?
YOU ARE THE CHOSEN MAN!
MIAN'S TRUE JOURNEY BEGAN THE MOMENT SHE FOUND YOU!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT LITTLE FAT THING
BUT MIAN NEEDS YOU YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL TO ACHIEVING HER GOAL!
ME...?


THE DEFENSES ARE INCREDIBLY LIGHT.
WE'RE GOING TO SLIP RIGHT IN.
SO IT'S PROBABLY A TRAP.
OF COURSE IT IS! I KNOW THAT MUCH.
THEY'VE TAKEN WATARU HOSTAGE. SOMETHING'S WAITING FOR ME. BUT WHAT?

IF YOU KNOW IT'S A TRAP, THEN WHY DON'T WE QUIT/ JEESH, GIRL, THIS IS BAD STUFF!!
I'M NOT HELPING YOU, YOU HEART! NOT ONE BIT!
AW, COME ON--AT LEAST BE A TARGET.
....
...
VRRM
VRRM


IT'S A GHOST SHIP
THERE'S NO ONE AROUND INSIDE, EITHER.
I WANNA GO HOME..
LET'S GO! STAY RIGHT BEHIND ME!
KANG KANG KANG
!
KTAK KTAK
FWD

HEY! GET BACK HERE, YOU LITTLE CHEEP!
I'LL DO THIS MY WAY, THANK YOU! NO HARD FEELINGS, OKAY?!
KTAK KTAK
YA HA, HEE HEE HEE!
KTAK KTAK
SPINELESS LITTLE MERCENARY GOOD-FOR-NOTHING!!
WELL, I DIDN'T EXPECT MUCH ANYWAY.
THAT'S WATARU'S SCENT!
HE'S THIS WAY!

SHION!!
WELCOME TO MY HOUSE DEAR ALTHOUGH IT'S BETTER MANNERS TO KNOCK.
I DO APOLOGIZE, MIAN.
WHERE'S WATARU??
YOU DIDN'T SEND MANY SERVANTS TO MEET ME, SHION?
I'M INSULTED?
MIAN!

WHAT'D YOU COME HERE FOR, YOU IDIOT?!
DON'T YOU KNOW A TRAP WHEN YOU SEE ONE?!
NATAKU...?
WELL, IF YOU HADN'T BEEN SUCH A CARELESS CORK BRAIN IN THE FIRST PLACE, THIS WOULD NEVER HAVE HAPPENED!
AH, SHUT YER FACE! I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT!!
YOU'RE SUCH A PAIN--
MIAN!! BEHIND YOU!!

I KNOW, I KNOW!
KAWGG
SKRAK

VERY WELL-- LET'S BEGIN
HUH ?
THUK
GYAAAA!!
WATARU!

GLOK
AAH!

Mian's Secret

FWHD
MIAN!
NGRR!

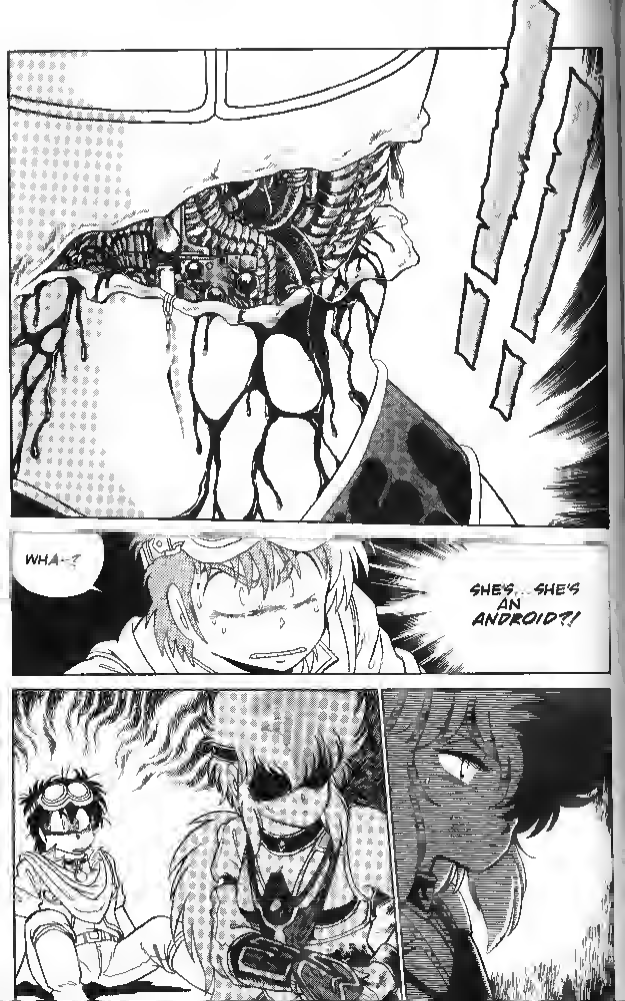
MIAN...?
GRAA!
FOR GOD'S SAKE STOP THIS!! SHE'S GONNA DIE!!
YOU'VE WON DAMMIT! MAKE THEM STOP!

IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN THAT TO KILL HER-- JUST YOU WATCH...
YOU LYING BITCH! SHE'S CUT WIDE OPEN!
CHOMP!
YEE-
OWW!
KRAK
!?
URK!

NGRR!
RG!

THAT DAMN KID! HE'LL PAY FOR THAT!
YOUR HIGHNESS TAKE COVER!
HOLD YOUR FIRE! LEAVE HIM BE.
?!
YOW!
YAHH!
YAIEE!
MIAN! AKE YOU--

YOU IDIOT! STAY AWAY FROM ME!
JUST GET OUT OF HERE!
THIS IS THE THANKS I GET FOR SAVING YOUR LIFE?!
GO SAVE SOMEONE ELSE!
YOU'RE MORE DANGEROUS THAN THIS LITTLE SCRATCH!
JUST FOR ONCE, WILL YOU STOP ACTING SO DAMNED TOUGH?!
IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT, YOU'RE GONNA DIE!!
STOP! GET AWAY FROM ME!
DON'T LOOK!
!!


WHA--?
SHE'S...SHE'S AN ANDROID?!

MIAN... I DIDN'T KNOW...
YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE SEX ANDR--
KWOK
SHE'S NO SIMPLE SEX TOY-- BUT A FOURTH-GENERATION SYNTHOID.
HUH ?
PSEUDO-LIFE ALMOST HUMAN BUT NOT QUITE.
MUCH MORE THAN JUST AN ANDROID YOUNG MAN.
A "SYNTHOID"...?
TO ALL EXTERNAL APPEARANCES, THIS UNIT IS COMPLETELY HUMAN.
A QUANTUM LEAP BEYOND ALL PREVIOUS MODELS!

PERHAPS NOW YOU'LL BE MORE INCLINED TO LISTEN TO ME, WATARU?
YOU'VE BEEN TRAVELLING AROUND WITH A MECHANICAL WOMAN!
MIAN IS IT TRUE?
IS IT REALLY TRUE THAT YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE THOSE SYNTHOID THINGS?
YES
IS IT REALLY TRULY TRUE??
FOR CHRIST'S SAKE!! I SAID YES, DIDN'T I?!!
EEP! S-SORRY?
SHION?
HOW DARE YOU CALL ME "PSEUDO-LIFE"?!
YOU OUGHT TO KNOW BET-

?!
H-HEY
WHAT THE--
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!
WE'RE ESCAPING, YOU FEATHER-BRAIN!
THE LITTLE BRAT! STOP HIM!

ENOUGH WITH THE MACHO CRAP-- PUT ME DOWN!! I CAN RUN BY MYSELF!
YOU MUST BE NUTS -YOU'RE SPLIT WIDE OPEN!! YOU CAN'T RUN!!
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME, KIPPO! THIS IS NOTHING!
I'M DIFFERENT FROM YOU DELICATE LITTLE SLUGS!
D'MMIT-- WHEN I SAY LET GO, LET GO!!
FWAP
HEY HEY! CUT IT OUT!
FWAP
VREVREEE
VREEEEE
OF COURSE IT'S A REAL INTRUDER ALERT, YOU FOOLS! NOW FIND THEM!!

TAKE YOUR TIME GENTLEMEN
PUT THE PRESSURE ON SLOWLY
YES MAAM?
LET'S SEE HOW YOU HOLD UP WHEN THE HEAT IS ON WATARU
JUST HOW LONG WILL YOUR LOYALTY LAST—?
HEY YOU! DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING OR WHAT?
WELL, ER I FIGURED IF WE JUST KEEP GOING DOWN, THERE'S GOTTA BE A WAY OUT!
LORD SAVE ME FROM MORONS?
SHUT YOUR TRAP! JUST BLEED QUIETLY, WHY DON'T YA?!
I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE BLEEDING, REMEMBER?
JEEZ-- HOW MUCH DO YOU WEIGH, ANYHOW?!

OUT IN THE BACK FORTY OLD SHEP BARKS
KIND FARMER JOHN THEN DIGS THERE FOR A LARK
VREE
VREE
FINDS HIM A TREASURE CHEST, SACKS FULL O'GOLD.
AH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SONG!
IF ONLY I HAD AN 'OLD SHEP" OF MY OWN!
NOTHING BUT GUNS AND ARMOR HERE NOT A THING WORTH RIPPING OFF
VREEE
AND THESE DAMNFOOL SIRENS ARE ENOUGH TO GIVE A MAN A HEADACHE
THERE HE IS! THE INTRUDER !!
EH ?
BRTTTT

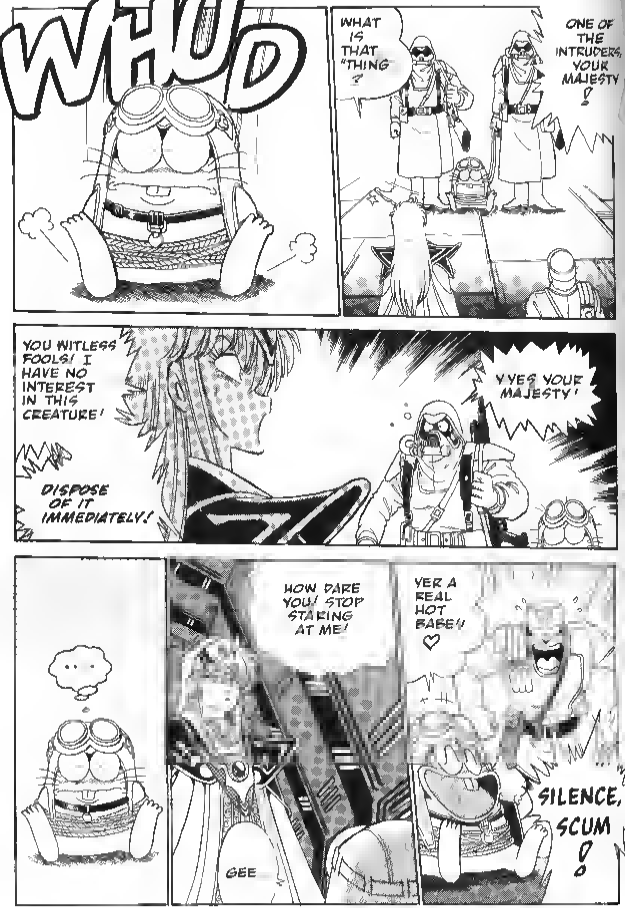
MOVE AND WE SHOOT!
I AIN'T MOVING I AIN'T I AIN'T :O
GOOD WORK, MEN! TRUSS HIM UP AND TAKE HIM AWAY.
NO! WAIT! I AM NOT A CROOK, I'M NOT!
SEE! THIS IS WHO YOU GUYS OUGHT TO BE LOOKING FOR!
TELL YOU WHAT, I'LL SPLIT THE REWARD WITH--
SILENCE!!
YOU INTRUDE THAT MAKES YOU AN INTRUDER!!
AEEE!!
GASP!
HAHH!

OW OW OWW!
CEVEAEV! KEEP WHINING AND THEY'LL HEAR US!?
PAIN IS PAINFUL?
URGG...
EATS! HOW ARE WE EVER GOING TO GET OUT OF THIS PLACE?!
BEATS ME ALL YOUR CRAZY RUNNING ABOUT GOT ME LOST TOO!
HMPH!
WHOA! WHAT TH-?! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR WOUND?!
I HAVE A SELF REGENERATIVE FUNCTION
A LITTLE INJURY LIKE THAT HEALS IN NO TIME
HOLY COW...
LEMME S--
WATCH THE HANDS, BUSTER!

SO YOU REALLY ARE AN ANDROID SHEESH..
WHY'D YOU HIDE IT FROM US ALL THIS TIME? IF ONLY YOU'D SAID SOMETHING
YOU'RE SURPRISED?
OF COURSE IM SURPRISED!?
SERVANT TO AN ANDROID WHAT A FUNK JOB
YOU'RE A RED NECK ANDRO-PHOBE?
DAMMIT ALL IT'S GETTING SO I DON'T KNOW WHO TO BELIEVE ANYMORE.
MIAN PLANS TO DESTROY THIS ENTIRE PLANET?
AM I REALLY GOING TO HAVE TO USE THIS THING?

LOOK MIAN
WHY DON'T YOU JUST OPEN UP AND TELL ME EVERYTHING?
LIKE, WHERE THE HECK DID YOU COME FROM? WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, AND WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GONNA DO WHEN YOU GET THERE?!
EVEN IF I TOLD YOU YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND
I ALREADY GOT THAT LINE FROM SHION!
HM... SO YOU TALKED WITH HER ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS, EH?
ER, WELL... NOT EXACTLY...
AND IT ALL SEEMED JUST SO SO UNBELIEVABLE RIGHT?
I SAID I DIDN'T HEAR NOTHIN'
HAVE IT YOUR WAY THEN I WON'T ASK YOU WHAT YOU TALKED ABOUT
AS I SEE IT. WHAT IT COMES DOWN TO IS WHO DO YOU BELIEVE - HER, OR ME?

SO OF COURSE, YOU'RE GOING TO STAY WITH ME RIGHT ?
WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT, HUH? THAT WAS A PRETTY CONFIDENT SMILE...
"WELL, JUST BECAUSE MIA'S NOT HUMAN DOESN'T MEAN SHE REALLY IS GONNA GO BLOW UP THE WORLD OR SOMETHING.
"FIRST OF ALL, NO WAY AM I GOING TO BELIEVE EVERYTHING EMPRESS SHION SAID...
"THE REAL QUESTION IS WHERE SHE MEANS TO TAKE US.
"AND WHAT IT IS SHE NEEDS ME FOR."
I SAID "RIGHT" RIGHT?!
YOW! YOW! RIGHT!
AND KEEP ONE THING STRAIGHT! ANDROID OR NO ANDROID, I'M STILL YOUR MASTER!
YOU GOT THAT BUDDY ?!
BACK TO NORMAL, HUH?


WHUD
WHAT IS THAT "THING"?
ONE OF THE INTRUDERS, YOUR MAJESTY!
YOU WITLESS FOOLS! I HAVE NO INTEREST IN THIS CREATURE!
DISPOSE OF IT IMMEDIATELY!
YYES YOUR MAJESTY!
HOW DARE YOU! STOP STARING AT ME!
GEE
YER A REAL HOT BABE!♡
SILENCE, SCUM!

WHY, THANK YOU.
AS FOR YOU...YOU ARE A SINGULARLY DISGUSTING BEING.
THERE ARE MANY REVOLTING CREATURES LIKE YOU IN AKOGI...
I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME I HAD YOUR RACE EXTERMINATED!
Heh Heh Heh...
HAHA HA HAW!
NRGGG!!
NOW YOU'VE GOT ME ANGRY...
YOU THINK YOUR CHEMICAL WARFARE TECHNOLOGY IS HOT, EH? TRY THIS ON FOR SIZE!!

FRAPPPPPP
BFLPPPP!
!!
HNNG!
HAH! GET A LUNGFUL OF THAT!! SABO'S "I-HAD-KUSAI-BEANS-FOR-DINNER-LAST-NIGHT" SPECIAL!
ALL LIVING CREATURES WITHIN A FIVE MILE RADIUS, BEWARE!

AIEE! MY NOSE, MY EYES !!
I C CAN'T BREATHE !! =3
YEE HEE HEE HEE!
YOUR MAJESTY! YOU MUST GET OUT OF HERE QUICKLY!
KILL IT!
KILL THAT FILTHY AKOGI SWINE!!
THESE GUYS HAVE HAD IT
WE'RE IN TROUBLE! IT'S SPREADING THROUGHOUT THE FORTRESS!
OPEN ALL HATCHES! VENTILATION SYSTEM AT FULL POWER!
ACTIVATE ALL AIR FILTERS! FREAK OUT THE EMERGENCY OXYGEN PACKS!

THERE'S LIGHT UP AHEAD! MAYBE A WAY OUT!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
HSSSH
YEEP!
THIS AIN'T GONNA DO US ANY GOOD
...NOT UNLESS WE BOTH GROW WINGS.
YOU SAID IT.
VRNNVRNN

AH WHAT A RELIEF!
IT'D BEEN BUILDING UP IN THERE FIT TO BUST
WELL, HEY, IF IT ISN'T OLD WATARU! I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD
EARO!! YOU, YOU SKUNK!
THINK BEFORE YOU LET FLY LIKE THAT, WILLYA?!
YREEE
YOU DAMN NEAR DID BOTH OF US IN!!
AW, COME ON...
DAMN--I COULD HAVE COLLECTED ON HIS LIFE INSURANCE!
BKOOOM

WHRAMMM
UWAAAA!
POP

WH-WHAT THE HELL?
BEATS ME.
BABO!!
THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!?
DAMN THAT LITTLE GASBAG!?
LUCKY I STILL HAD SOME LEFT IN THE OLD PLUMBING, EH?

FORGIVE US, YOUR HIGHNESS NONE OF US DREAMED THE AKOGI HAD SUCH FIENDISH SKILLS
I'LL MOBILIZE AN AIR-MOBILE BRIGADE IMMEDIATELY AND TRACK THEM DOWN
.....
COLONEL PIET, DEPLOY FIRST AND THIRD SQUADRONS !!
NO
PARDON, MAJESTY ?
LET THEM GO MIAN IS TRAVELLING WITH A TIME BOMB NOW
AND HER DARLING WATARU WILL BE THE TRIGGER
BUT SHE ISN'T OUR ONLY ENEMY
THERE'S ANOTHER LITTLE TASK TO TAKE CARE OF FIRST.

WELL I'LL BE DAMNED! YOU'RE GOOD FOR SOMETHING AFTER ALL, BABO!
HEY! STOP JUMPING AROUND ALREADY.
BALLOON RIDES: 200 P.D. (PER PERSON PER HOUR)
.....
.....
.....
GREEDY LITTLE--!
NYA HA HA!
WHERE DO YOU MEAN TO TAKE US, MIAN?
I WONDER IF IT'LL ALL BECOME CLEAR TO ME WHEN WE GET THERE?
"AW, WHAT THE HECK! WE'VE COME THIS FAR TOGETHER! I'LL STICK WITH YOU TO THE VERY END, MIAN!"
"IF I'VE GOT TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO SOMETIME, I MIGHT AS WELL WAIT UNTIL THEN!"

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